

Ealing Council
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Tel 020 8825 5000

Your ref

My ref

Extension
5566

Date
01 February 2023

Dear Parent or Carer,

Supermarket vouchers for the February half term holiday to support families

I am writing to advise you that, **if your child is eligible for benefits-related Free School Meals**, then Ealing Council will be providing your household with additional financial support during the February half term holiday.

You will shortly receive a supermarket voucher to support you to meet food and other essential costs over the school holiday.

Ealing Council has been allocated funding to support families with children on low incomes who have been affected by the pandemic via the Department for Work and Pension's **Household Support Fund** and this has been extended to cover the upcoming winter period.

A company called Blackhawk Network is administering the voucher scheme for Ealing Council at no cost to the council.

How much are the vouchers worth?

February half term holiday voucher - £25 voucher per eligible pupil

Please note that children in Reception to Year 2 who receive a free school meal under the universal infant free school meals scheme (but who would not otherwise be eligible) are not entitled to receive the vouchers. To be eligible, they must be confirmed as entitled to a benefits-related free school meal due to your low family income and/or be covered by transitional protection arrangements in place during the roll out of universal credit.

How do I redeem the voucher?

1. Blackhawk Network will email you a 16-digit code. This will be sent to the email address we have on our records. Please keep an eye on your inbox and check your junk or spam folder. If we do not hold an email address for you, your code will be posted to you.
2. When you have received your code, go to <https://ealingcouncil.select-your-reward.co.uk>



3. Type in your unique 16-digit code on the homepage and click 'Redeem'
4. Make your selection and click 'Checkout'
5. Enter a valid email address where your confirmation and voucher will be sent.
6. Review and accept the terms and conditions before placing your order.
7. Once you have placed your order, your voucher will be emailed to you within 24 hours.
8. You can use your voucher either online or in store

Where can I spend the voucher?

You can choose where you spend your voucher. The voucher can be used at the following retailers: Tesco, Sainsbury's, Asda, Morrisons, Waitrose, M&S, Aldi, McColls and Iceland. The voucher should be used to purchase food and essential clothing, for example, school uniform and should not be spent on non-essential items. Prices vary from one place to another so you might want to consider comparing prices for the items you need before deciding which supermarket to use.

Expiry dates

Voucher codes are only valid for three months from the date of issue but once redeemed you then have between one and five years to spend the voucher, depending on which retailer you choose. So please do ensure you redeem your voucher code well ahead of the expiry date and contact Blackhawk or the pupil support team in plenty of time if you have not received your voucher.

Need help?

If you have any questions, please refer to the frequently asked questions on the website as these may provide the answer that you need:

www.select-your-reward.co.uk/Faqs

If you have not received a voucher code by 17 February 2023, please first check your junk or spam mailbox folder. Otherwise, please complete the online contact form at www.select-your-reward.co.uk/ContactUs or email the Pupil Support team at pupilsupport@ealing.gov.uk . Please do not contact your school directly regarding your vouchers.

Other support available

Anyone struggling to meet food costs, cover their rent or purchase essential items can apply for financial assistance. To find more information or to make an application go to:

https://www.ealing.gov.uk/info/201264/help_for_residents/2687/help_with_your_money/2

Yours sincerely

Kim Price

Planning and Resources Strategic Lead (Children's Services)