

Covid-19 update from the Education and Skills Team

Professional Advocates for Children in Education, Governor Support, NQTs, Early Years, the Virtual School for Looked after Children and In Year Fair Access

Gearing up for Easter

There are no changes to arrangements to mitigate Covid (despite high numbers in some schools).

However, one of the good things to come from the pandemic has been increased support for children eligible for free school meals over the school holiday periods. Leaders will note the proposed voucher arrangements again over Easter (below). We are also in the final stages of selecting providers to offer four days of Holiday Activity and Food Programme (HAF) sessions. As in previous holidays, eligible children can access free provision including a meal. By summer, we are intending to have set up an electronic booking system but for now, we will be relying on schools to confirm eligibility if asked by providers (please). We tried codes over Christmas but these did not work – long story for another day.

We think it is time for another huge thank you for all that you are doing. We do not under-estimate the emotional reserves being drawn on as schools and academies juggle staff and child illness alongside a so-called return to normal accountability measures.

Pauline, Jo and the E&S team

FSM vouchers for Easter

Derby City Council will be issuing voucher codes to schools, for the Easter term break 2022, with each code to the value of £25.

These vouchers are to help towards the cost of food over the term break, and can be redeemed at one of 9 supermarket chains, Aldi, Asda, Farm Foods, Iceland, Marks & Spencers, Morrisons, Sainsbury, Tesco & Waitrose.

We are using the same scheme as the February 2022 and Christmas 2021 term breaks.

Our Business Support Team are aiming to issue these codes to schools, via known email addresses, no later than 31 March 2022.

If you have any questions, issues, or need more voucher codes, please contact us via email at household.support@derby.gov.uk

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