



Hovingham & St Hilda's CE (VC) Primary Schools Federation



Headteacher Mr J. Pynn MA NPQH

15th January 2021

Dear Parents,

It has been great for me to be in contact with so many families via telephone or email this week as well as with those with children in school whom I see face to face.

We continue to want to support you all however we can, and it has been good to quickly resolve lots of home learning issues this week. We have been bowled over by the many kind messages we have received! Please continue to liaise for any support you need. For all such enquiries please use headteacher@hshafed.uk

The start made to accessing home learning via Microsoft Teams continues to be pleasing. We really appreciate that this is new for many parents, pupils and staff. We shared Information for Parents about our Remote Learning offer earlier in the week. It includes information about expectations of the amount of home learning to be offered and how we provide this through Microsoft Teams. Teams has great functionality allowing us to set assignments and provide support and feedback. It also allows us to see at a glance who has accessed each assignment.

We've begun making brief phone calls this week to each family. As I explained last week, the purpose is just to see how home learning is progressing and to provide whatever support we can. If the call comes at a time that is not convenient, we will completely understand. If this is the case, please confirm a convenient time to receive another call or if you prefer, for you to call us.

We are looking forward to our live worship sessions via Teams later today. We've shared protocols for participation earlier this week. Our aim is to host such sessions on different days and times over coming weeks. Whilst it will be wonderful if your child can join, we reiterate that we know this may not be possible for everyone to be part of each session.

Again, we'd like to remind you that our school websites contain lots of helpful information about E-Safety <https://www.hovingham.n-yorks.sch.uk/school-info/e-safety/> or <https://st-hildascofe.n-yorks.sch.uk/school-info/e-safety/>. If you have any concerns or queries, please contact me.

Our Coronavirus web pages continue to be regularly updated and provide lots of useful information all in one place. This can be found at:

<https://hovingham.n-yorks.sch.uk/school-info/coronavirus-updates/> or

Hovingham CE (VC) Primary School,
Main Street, Hovingham,
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Tel/Fax: 01653 628358
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Free School Meals

There has been a lot of discussion in the media about support for families in receipt of Free School Meals, whilst schools are closed, which has led to some confusion. There are actually two types of Free School Meal provision in a Primary school, and only one is eligible for the additional support, such as food parcels or supermarket vouchers.

Firstly, there is the universal provision of a free meal for any pupil in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2. Secondly, there is a benefit related provision of a free meal for any pupil, regardless of age, which is related to a parents income and what benefits they receive. It's this second group who are entitled to the further support whilst schools are closed. To qualify for this benefit, you must be in receipt of one of the following:

- Universal Credit, provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods (£616.67 per month);
- Income Support;
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance;
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance;
- Support under part six of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999;
- The guarantee element of Pension Credit;
- Child Tax Credit, provided you are also not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual household gross income that does not exceed £16,190 (as assessed by HMRC); or
- Working Tax Credit run-on, paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit.

Please note that contributions-based benefits, including contribution-related Jobseekers' Allowance do not entitle you to claim free school meals.

Apply for free school meals

If you meet the criteria, apply by using the [application form \(docx / 147 KB\)](#) or go to <https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/free-school-meals>

Take care everyone.

Mr Pynn



James Pynn
Headteacher

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