

Newchurch Community Primary School  
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Headteacher: Mrs J Narraway

4<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Dear parent/carer,

### **Covid-19 Winter Grant Scheme**

Yesterday we received information from Lynton Green, Director of Corporate Services & Deputy Chief Executive, with details regarding of families who need help their food and utility bills this winter may be eligible for help from the Covid19 Winter Grant scheme. This is additional funding over the winter months to support with food and basic utility bills. Here are the details:

#### **To be eligible for the grant you must be one of the following status:**

1. A parent or carer of a child living with you aged 0 to 16 years;
2. A parent or carer of a young person aged 16 to 18 years living with you;
3. A young person aged 16 – 18 years living independently;
4. A parent or carer of a young person aged 19 to 24 years with special educational needs or disability (SEND) if they have an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP) or have had an EHCP previously;
5. A young person aged 19 to 24 years with SEND if you have an EHCP or have had an EHCP previously;
6. A young person aged 18 - 21 years who has previously spent time in the care of Warrington Borough Council as a child.

#### **Also, to be eligible for the grant you must currently be claiming one of the following financial support benefits (income is based on household):**

- Income Support;
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance;
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance;
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999;
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit;
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190);
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit;



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- Universal Credit.

Please be aware that you commit benefit fraud by claiming benefits you are not entitled to on purpose, for example by providing false information. Action will be taken with anyone found to be making a fraudulent claim.

Young People who get paid these benefits directly, instead of through a parent or carer, can claim for themselves, however full household circumstances have to be taken into account. This grant can be used for food, heating, lighting, cooking, water and sewerage needs. It is not intended to cover debt advice and general financial hardship support which is not linked to food, warmth and/or hygiene. This grant is not to be used to cover housing costs as there are other benefits and support is available to cover these costs.

If you meet both the eligibility status in the list 1-6 AND are currently claiming one of the listed financial support benefits, please complete the following online Winter Grant application form:

[www.warrington.gov.uk/COVID2020-WG](http://www.warrington.gov.uk/COVID2020-WG) . You will be able to make a claim for each child in your household within this one application. If possible please complete the form by 13th December 2020 in order for the local authority to try and get the first payment of £20.57 for each eligible child to you before Christmas, with a further three payments being made during the January to March period.

If you would like further information on the grant or support completing the form please email:

[covidwinterpaymentgrant@warrington.gov.uk](mailto:covidwinterpaymentgrant@warrington.gov.uk) or call Contact Warrington 01925 443322.

### Vodafone free data

We are also pleased to announce that Vodafone have supplied us with a small number of data SIMs with 30GB free connectivity for 90 days. They are 'Pay as You Go' and can be topped up after the 90 day free period in the normal way. However, they can only be used in a Vodafone enabled device. If anybody would like to be supplied with one for their child's use, please contact the school office. It will be on a first come first served basis.

### Free School Meals

Over the recent months more and more families are experiencing financial hardship as a result of changes in their employment circumstances. If you are in receipt of the benefits detailed above, your child may be eligible for free school meals. Please see letter on front page of website for more information. If you are not sure about anything, please contact the school office who will be happy to check for you.

With kindest regards,



Mrs Jayne Narraway

Head Teacher



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