

Oxfordshire County Council Early Years Team County Hall New Road Oxford OX1 1ND

Kevin Gordon Corporate Director of Children's Services

06 December 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Household Support Fund: support for families this winter

Ahead of the Christmas holiday, families of eligible children and young people in Oxfordshire early years settings, schools and colleges will once again receive support with the costs of food during the holiday period, funded by the Department of Work and Pensions' Household Support Fund. As you will be aware, in normal circumstances funding is not available for food support outside of term-time and we now expect this funding to cease after Easter 2022.

Previously we provided £15 per holiday week per child of young person. This has been increased to £25 per week for the Christmas holiday to reflect the additional pressures families are experiencing this winter. Therefore £50 per child is available for the two-week holiday period. Your child's school, college or nursery will provide the support to you in the form of a supermarket voucher or equivalent.

Eligible children in schools are those entitled to a benefits related Free School Meal. In Early Years Settings, children accessing the Early Years Pupil Premium or funding for a 2-Year-Old Place are eligible.

As your child/ren meets the eligibility criteria you are entitled to the £50 per-child grant in the form of a supermarket voucher. I hope you find this of assistance.

Yours sincerely,

KICL

Kevin Gordon Corporate Director of Children's Services

