

9th October 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Devon County Council's Free School Meals Holiday Voucher Scheme October Half-Term 2023

About the scheme

Devon County Council is supporting families of children who currently receive free school meals during term time with supermarket vouchers to help buy food during the **October Half-Term**.

The vouchers will be to the value of £15 per child and will be sent to you via a text message shortly.

These vouchers can be used at the following stores: Sainsburys, Iceland, Farmfoods, Tesco, Morrison's, Asda, Aldi, M&S Food and Waitrose to purchase food over the holidays to replace the meals your child would have received at school during the day. Please note that Tesco/Morrisons/ALDI vouchers can only be used in-store.

If you have more than one child entitled to free school meals, you should receive a unique code for each child, as the holiday vouchers are issued separately.

Please note that these codes expire on **Monday 18th December 2023**. Once this date has passed, the scheme will expire, and we will not be backdating any payments. We encourage parents to redeem the full amount together, as once redeemed the vouchers are valid for longer.

Getting the vouchers

Devon County Council has partnered with an organisation called Black Hawk Network to help us distribute these vouchers as quickly as possible via their 'Select' website because they have lots of experience managing voucher schemes like this and are working with several other local authorities too.

- To get your vouchers you will need to visit a website called 'Select' (www.select-your-reward.co.uk) and input your unique code.
- You will then be able to choose your preferred supermarket and add your vouchers to your basket.
- Please then checkout of the 'Select' website by providing an email address for them to send you your chosen supermarket vouchers electronically. There is no option to receive physical vouchers by post.



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- Once you have received the vouchers to your email inbox, you can save them to your phone or tablet to use online (depending on the supermarket) or show at the checkout in store. Alternatively, you can print the vouchers off to give to the cashier.

What if I need some help?

If you are struggling to get your vouchers because you don't have access to the internet or a mobile device to receive and store the vouchers on, and don't have any friends or family to help, please contact Devon County Council's education helpline on 0345 155 1019.

Further information

If your child has siblings attending school in a neighbouring authority (for example Plymouth or Torbay) who are also receiving free school meals, the local authority their school is located within will have arrangements to support them over the holidays.

More detailed information about the free school meals holiday voucher scheme, including how to use them and what to do if there's a problem, is available on Devon County Council's website. Please visit devon.cc/holidayvouchers

There are also some useful FAQs on the Select website along with contact details for any technical support if you have a problem using the codes and accessing your vouchers. Please visit www.select-your-reward.co.uk.

If you're experiencing severe financial hardship, support is available. Please visit [Help with the cost of living in Devon - Devon County Council](#) for information about how to access local financial support, where to find foodbanks and community larders and what to do if you're on a low income.

Finally, if you have received this message in error, please let us know by calling 0345 155 1019 or emailing freeschoolmeals@devon.gov.uk so we can make sure this vital support gets to the right family.

Regards,

Mr O'Sullivan

Head Teacher