

29 November 2022

I hope this letter finds you all well. With Christmas just around the corner, and all the demands this places on family's finances; it seems timely to share the information below with you all.

If you want any further guidance or support around financial issues please do get in touch with your child's head of year and we will do all we can to help

Welcome to the updates on support for households in terms of cost of living that you may find useful as a parent and carer.

Cost of Living Support

Benefits and financial help, including:

- Benefits and support for your household - How to get further information and advice about benefits you may be able to claim and help available to manage your finances, debt and household costs.
- Cost of Living - Find out what help is available for households and businesses in Lancashire.
- Help with essential household items - Find out about the Essential Household Goods Support Scheme and how to access further information and support.
- Help with Energy - Find out about help with energy bills, energy saving, energy efficiency schemes and what to do if your boiler is broken.

Warm and welcome places:

Our libraries are warm and welcome spaces, where you can find:

- a warm drink
- a space to sit
- free computers and Wi-Fi
- charging points for digital equipment
- events and activities
- staff support to find information

Find a library to view facilities, what's on and opening times. All our libraries are accessible. You can also download a printable list of the libraries which are warm and welcome places, but please check the individual library web pages for up to date opening times.

Support with food

Food banks

If you're struggling to pay for food, you might be able to get a referral to a food bank for emergency food. You can find out more on the Citizens Advice website.

Free school meals

Your child may be able to get free school meals if you get certain benefits.

Healthy Start - if you have a child under 4 or are pregnant

If you're more than 10 weeks pregnant or have a child under 4, you may be entitled to get help to buy healthy food and milk. Find out more and apply on the Healthy Start NHS website.

If you have any questions or have any difficulties with applying you can come to one of the Healthy Start digital sessions at our libraries for help.

Support in your district

Find out what support is available in your area from your local district council website link below. If you are unsure which district council to contact, you can find your district council by post code.

Burnley Together - Burnley Borough Council and other local organisations

Chorley Borough Council

Lancaster City Council

Pendle Borough Council

Preston City Council

West Lancashire Borough Council

Wyre Borough Council

Paying for Childcare

Funded childcare for 2-year-olds

Some two-year-olds in Lancashire may qualify for up to 15 hours a week at a local nursery or with a childminder, funded by the government. Check if you are eligible and search for a provider.

Funded childcare for 3- and 4-year-olds

From the term after your child's third birthday, they can have up to 15 hours a week at a local nursery or with a childminder funded by the government.

30 hours funded childcare

Eligible working families can get an additional 15 hours funded childcare on top of the 15 hours universal funded childcare.

Help paying for childcare

Financial support for you and your family.



Ruth England

Headteacher



Think BIG



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