

15 July 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Croydon Council has informed us of an important change to how local families receive financial support.

The government's Household Support Fund ended on 31 March 2026 and is being replaced by a new program called the Crisis and Resilience Fund (CRF).

Because the government has changed the rules for how this money can be spent, there is a major change coming for families:

- **What is changing:** The new fund is strictly designed for emergency crisis support and one-off financial shocks. It does not allow councils to give out automatic 'blanket' vouchers to everyone because a child is eligible for Free School Meals.
- **What this means for you:** The automatic Free School Meal Vouchers you usually receive during school holidays will stop on 31 August 2026. You will still receive them for the upcoming 2026 summer break, but that will be the final round under the old system.
- **Future Support:** Low-income households will still be able to apply for help through the new fund, but it will be based on individual financial emergencies rather than being given out automatically to all Free School Meal families.

You can find more information and guidance on the Crisis and Resilience Fund on the following link: <https://www.gov.uk/cost-living-help-local-council>

Yours sincerely



Mr C Marston
Head Teacher

