



St Thomas More Catholic School

'Aspire not to have more, but to be more'

Archbishop Oscar Romeo

CCA/RME/FSM

19th January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

You will be aware that since returning to school in September, we reinstated our Asda card scheme to support families registered for FSM during enforced isolations, year group closures and more recently the national lockdown.

The Government have now confirmed the return of its FSM voucher scheme through a company called Edenred, the same scheme that was used during the summer term lockdown. As before, this scheme is fully funded by the Government.

Due to the large costs associated with the Asda cards we will be moving over to the Government scheme for the rest of this lockdown period.

The Government scheme re-opened on Monday 18th January. As the school was unable to order vouchers in advance of this date and because it can take up to 5 days to receive an eCode by email, **Asda cards have been topped up for one more week (until Friday 22nd January)** to assist during the period of changeover.

Following this week, the Asda cards will no longer be used during this lockdown, however, **please do not dispose of your Asda cards as these may be needed once we return to school.**

As requested, school will redeem your eCode on your behalf and post out paper eGift cards (online vouchers) to the address we hold for you. It is your responsibility to ensure we have your correct address. Please contact school if you need to update this.

- The value of your vouchers will be **£15 per child per week.**
- Vouchers will be issued for a **period of 4 weeks. The first eGift cards (online vouchers) you receive will cover the period of 18th January to 12th February.** If you have one child the value will therefore be £60, two children £120, three children £180.
- When you receive your eGift cards (online vouchers) in the post take them to the selected supermarket and show them at the till to pay.
- Some supermarkets (Asda, Sainsbury's and Waitrose), allow you to use the eGift card for online shopping, for this you will need to enter the bar code during the checkout process.
- Vouchers cannot be used to purchase any age restricted products such as cigarettes and alcohol.
- Current Government guidance states that vouchers will not be provided for February half term.

This scheme will continue until we have confirmation of when the school will re-open.

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If you experience any difficulties with your eGift card and need assistance you can contact a member of the finance team on 07895 531484.

Thank you for your support and co-operation once again during this change over, we hope that the Asda scheme has been of assistance to you in the meantime.

If you would like to discuss this initiative in person, or have any other concerns during this period of closure you are welcome to contact us via postbox@st-thomasmore.walsall.sch.uk

Yours sincerely

Mrs S. M. Bowen

Mrs S Bowen
Head teacher

M Atterbury

Mrs M Atterbury
Deputy Head teacher