

Dear Parents,

I am writing to you with regards to the current Cost of Living crisis. We are aware that many families are facing very challenging times and we would like to help. Please find attached a factsheet with links to the various places and resources available locally to help families.

The fact sheet contains information about

- Eligibility for benefits and other support from the government
- Support available for energy bills
- Free and low-cost food

Sadly, even at times like this some people will try to take advantage of others. To help you avoid being scammed, information is also included on the factsheet about this.

As a school we have been reviewing what we can do to help and recognise that the cost of school uniforms can be high for parents and carers. We have therefore looked to reduce the number of branded items- those with school logos on- down to being the blazer, tie and school PE kit. To help students stay warm this winter and reduce uniform costs the students can now wear any plain navy-blue V-necked jumper instead of having to purchase a branded school one. The PTA are currently exploring how they can support with the selling of preloved/secondhand school uniform and further information will follow about this.

The school continues to offer a free daily breakfast club from 7.30am in the Odyssey building in the car park and there are staff who can help you to check if your child is eligible for free school meals or signpost you to the various support organisations. Please note the value of the daily free school meal has risen from £2.60 to £2.80 which allows the students to get more food each day.

At times like these, it is important we stand together and support each other. I hope you find the information on the fact sheet helpful and please contact the link on the fact sheet or your child's year team if you have any queries.

Yours Sincerely,

Mrs.McMaster

Assistant Headteacher