

Headteacher: Mr D. Whales | Chair of Governors: Mr A. Brown

22 May 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

We are writing to share important information from Peterborough City Council regarding recent changes to financial support available to families. This information is being shared with all parents and carers, including those who currently receive support and those who may feel they could be entitled, to ensure that no families miss out on assistance that may now be available to them.

You may be aware that the school holiday food voucher scheme, which was funded through the Government's Household Support Fund (HSF), has now come to an end. This scheme had been introduced as a temporary measure to support families with essential costs such as food and energy during the cost-of-living crisis.

The Government has now replaced this with a new **Crisis Resilience Fund**, which will focus on providing targeted support to families most in need and helping households achieve longer-term financial stability. Further details on how this funding will be accessed locally are expected to be shared by the council shortly.

Alongside this, there have been significant national changes to financial support for families. From April 2026, the Government has removed the two-child limit in Universal Credit and tax credits. This means that families can now receive financial support for all dependent children, rather than being restricted to the first two. As a result, some families may see a notable increase in their household income.

To help families understand what they may now be entitled to, Peterborough City Council has introduced an online "**Better Off Calculator**", which allows you to check benefits and financial support options based on your circumstances. In addition, the council has developed updated '**Money and Benefits**' pages on their website, providing guidance on accessing financial support, managing household budgets, and finding local help with food, bills, and other essentials.

We also want to highlight that the **Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme** will continue until March 2029. This programme offers eligible children access to enriching activities and nutritious meals during school holidays, and further information will be shared with families ahead of each holiday period.

If you believe you may be entitled to support, or your circumstances have changed, we strongly encourage you to explore the options available through the council.

If you have any questions or would like support in accessing this information, please do not hesitate to contact **Louisa Masters** at l.masters@kenstimpson.org.uk, who will be happy to assist you.

Yours faithfully,

Ken Stimpson Academy