Quadrant East, Cobalt Business Park, The Silverlink North, North Tyneside, NE27 0BY participation@northtyneside.gov.uk

Date: 14 December 2020

Dear parent / guardian

COVID Winter Grant

North Tyneside Council knows that this has been a very difficult year for many people across our borough, and we have worked hard to ensure that families and individuals who need our help get as much support as we can give.

The government has provided us with a Covid Winter Grant to help our most vulnerable adults and children with the cost of food and other essential items over the winter period up to the end of March 2021.

We have been given the flexibility to use this grant in the way we think is best. As part of a wider approach by the council to help our most vulnerable residents, we intend to use the majority of the Covid Winter Grant to help those families whose children are in receipt of free school meals because they meet the income related benefits criteria.

A £60 voucher will be paid for each child through an online account managed by Edenred, a company well-known for working with schools and other organisations to provide this kind of help. The voucher can be used in most supermarkets, either in store or online, within three months.

This is a one-off winter food grant to support families and help to manage the additional expense they will have during the Christmas, half term and Easter breaks when children don't receive free school meals.

Edenred will contact you by email to let you know your voucher is ready to be downloaded. Instructions will also be included when they contact you and details of the help desk to support you if you need it.

Your faithfully

T Collespie

Janice Gillespie Head of Resources

