



Somerford Primary School

Draper Road, Christchurch, Dorset BH23 3AS

Tel : 01202 485436

Email : office@somersetford.dorset.sch.uk

Website : www.somerford.dorset.sch.uk

Headteacher : Mrs H Frampton

' This is a school that puts pupils first. '

Ofsted November 2021

8th December 2022

Support at Christmas and with Winter Hardship

We understand what a difficult time it is for many people at the moment so we have drawn together some of the support available. Hopefully this is a useful sheet to keep handy over the Christmas holidays.

Christmas pop up shop – all is free

Come along to the school hall on Friday 9th December 1.45-2.45 to pick up some useful items for Christmas. Tracy Blick from Christchurch Foodbank will also be available to chat to.

Christchurch Foodbank

All children in receipt of benefit related free school meals will receive a voucher from the Foodbank for Christmas. The Foodbank can help with many things other than food too so contact them if you are struggling. Call 07587371088 or 07536983678. The school can provide Foodbank vouchers at any time of the year – just ask.

Household Support Fund- Food Vouchers for the December School Holiday

Food vouchers will be available for all parents with children who are registered for benefit related free school meals. The value of the voucher will be £15 per child for a week, so £30 per child for the two weeks holidays. This will be issued as usual on the 19th December.

Free holiday club with a 2 course lunch

Premier Education are running a holiday club in the first week of the holidays which is free to children in receipt of free school meals. Children receive a cooked lunch with pudding each day too. Book on with the link sent on Mme. If you need help accessing this, please ask.

Other support with the Cost of Living situation

As the cost of living increases it is important to be aware of the benefits, payments and support options available to you. There are local and national schemes that can help you with rent, food, energy and more. The government has a national cost of living hub which can be found at Cost of living support - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk) . In addition there is a range of local support which is available which is detailed below.



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Household Support Fund 3

This funding is to support residents in BCP with the cost of living situations around keeping warm, reducing energy bills and accessing food across the winter.

Residents can apply for short term financial help through food and/or energy vouchers through Citizen's Advice BCP at Household Support Fund - Citizens Advice Bournemouth Christchurch & Poole (citizensadvicebcp.org.uk). If residents don't have access to the internet to complete the form you can visit your nearest drop-in or outreach session which can be found here: Get Advice - Citizens Advice Bournemouth Christchurch & Poole (citizensadvicebcp.org.uk) These are the current drop-in sessions:

Christchurch Outreach Hub

Christchurch Central Library (BH23 1AW)

Fridays 9:30am – 12:30pm (Drop-ins only)

Citizen's Advice BCP also has other support and advice available. Their Community Advice Vehicle will be visiting various locations in the BCP area in the coming months.

Energy Advice

Eligible households can also benefit from a visit from an energy advisor who will support them with ways to reduce their bills, access energy saving advice and in some instances provide a new boiler depending on circumstances. Full details can be found here: [LEAP Home Visit | Ridgewater Energy](#)

Access to Food

There are a number of options for accessing community food support and these are detailed on the webpages at [Community support if you are struggling to pay for food \(bcpcouncil.gov.uk\)](#)

<https://bcppacesstofoodmap.v88.co.uk/dl/da19fa?full=t>

Safe and Well visits

Dorset and Wiltshire Fire & Rescue Service offer free Safe & Well advice, which can include a home visit and the provision of smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. To request this for yourself, a family member or a vulnerable person, please call them FREE on 0800 038 2323 (leave a message and someone will call you back) or visit www.dwfire.org.uk/safe-and-well-visits



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A Warm Welcome network

BCP are supporting the development of a network of warm welcome spaces across Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole, where residents who struggle to keep their homes warm can go and keep warm in a welcoming space. Details of current Warm Welcome spaces can be found in the webpage, along with information on how to set up a warm welcome space. Warm welcome spaces (bcpcouncil.gov.uk)

<https://www.bcpcouncil.gov.uk/Communities/Cost-of-living-help/Warm-welcome-spaces/Warm-welcome-spaces.aspx>

BCP Cost of Living support one-stop shop

For more information please see the dedicated Cost of Living support hub on the Council's webpage which details the support available Cost of living help (bcpcouncil.gov.uk)

Healthy Homes Dorset | Home

BCP Council, Dorset Council and Public Health Dorset have appointed Ridgewater Energy as the delivery partner for Healthy Homes Dorset. For further information, please call FREEPHONE 0300 003 7023 or text INSULATION followed by YOUR NAME to 07984 440584 and they shall call you back.

Please do come and talk to us if you need some help. We have so many things we can do to support without judgement including access to an emergency fund. We just want to help.

Best wishes

Helen Frampton and Mr Walsh

Headteacher and Pastoral Lead



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