



Dear school leaders,

You will be aware the government voted against funding FSM vouchers for children for the half term holiday.

In Hackney we do not want any child to go hungry.

We will work with you and families over the coming weeks to ensure we have suitable provision for children entitled to Free School Meals over the Christmas period.

For the October half term, Hackney runs a holiday emergency programme: the details are below and we would be grateful if you could publicise this.

- Families who need additional support including emergency food vouchers can call the Early Help Hub in FAST on [0208 356 5000](tel:02083565000) or [0208 356 2710](tel:02083562710) (out of hours)

If you find you as a school need to provide any vouchers to families who approach you, if you are open, in an emergency situation over the half term the council will refund these. You should keep receipts and we will be in touch about the mechanism for this.

Thank you for all you are doing - and have a good half term break.

With best wishes,

Annie Gammon - Director of Education
Cllr Anntoinette Bramble - Deputy Mayor and Lead member for Education

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