

Support for Free School Meal families over the October half-term

While the UK government has said they will not provide free school meals over the October half term holiday, many local authorities and their partners are stepping in to provide support at a local level. You can find information about [local provision here](#).

We have also compiled the available information on local authority provision in Greater Manchester below.

Please note that the details presented here reflect the information available on Monday 26th October. We understand that the situation developing and that the type of support and the application process will differ from borough to borough. If you are unsure how to apply or whether you will be eligible, please contact your local authority. If you find any information that is missing from this page, [please contact us](#) and we will update the details below accordingly.

[Bolton](#) – Bolton Council is providing support to families over the school half term break via local groups. Other support, including the council's Local Welfare Provision Scheme and Humanitarian Response can be accessed through [Bolton Council's website](#). To contact the covid-19 helpline phone 01204 337221

[Bury](#) – Bury council will provide food vouchers for almost 8,000 children over the half term holiday next week. The £15 vouchers will be distributed from Monday 26 October 2020. Those eligible for free school meals should call 0161 253 5858.

[Manchester](#) – The council will provide free school meals for children who are eligible for an income related free school meal over the half-term break (26 to 30 October 2020). Eligible families will receive £15 for each eligible child in your household, and [can claim here](#).

[Oldham](#) – Hundreds of children in Oldham will continue to get free school meals during half-term

[Rochdale](#) – Rochdale Council will be funding extra free school meal vouchers during this October half term by providing £15 Aldi vouchers to families – one for each child eligible for free school meals. Vouchers will be sent to eligible families direct from the council. The vouchers are expected to arrive from week commencing Monday, 2 November 2020.

[Salford](#) – Families in receipt of free school meals can claim them during the half-term holiday. Parents who claim free school meals should take identification to their local gateway, hub or Irlam Library and they will be given a free voucher. Residents can find the [locations of gateways and Broughton Hub here](#).

[Stockport](#) – In Stockport meals are being provided over half term working with Life Leisure.

[Tameside](#) – Thousands of children will receive free school meal vouchers during the half-term holiday as part of a scheme from Tameside Council. Further details of the scheme and how to apply will follow on the Tameside Council website at www.tameside.gov.uk. In the meantime, any family who needs immediate emergency support should contact the council's Early Help team on 0161 342 4260.

[Trafford](#) – Trafford Council is to provide free meals for thousands of children in the borough during half-term holidays. Parents will receive a £15 Tesco voucher per child for the week and those who are eligible can [apply here](#) or by calling 0161 912 3265. It applies to children who attend schools in Trafford even if they live outside of the borough.

[Wigan](#) – Thousands of children will receive free school meals during the half-term holiday as part of an initiative funded by Wigan Council. Around 10,500 children are eligible for free school meals across the borough, and they will be contacted directly.

[Greater Manchester](#) – 1,000 food vouchers will be provided to kids in need over half-term. Greater Manchester Combined Authority has teamed up with Co-op to provide the vouchers to young people across the region who are most in need. They will be distributed during October half-term and will provide kids with a free meal deal in local Co-op stores.

<https://www.gmpovertyaction.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/FSM-notes-.pdf>

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