



Glebe Farm School, Burney Drive, Glebe Farm
Wavendon, Milton Keynes, MK17 8XY
enquiries@glebefarmschool.co.uk
Headteacher: Mr Matthew Shotton
www.glebefarmschool.co.uk

Dear Parents/Carers,

With the current cost of living increasing Glebe Farm school would like to support our families where possible.

Let us know if you're in need of support.

We know that many families are going through a tough time this winter and we want to do everything we can to help you and your child. If you're struggling with your finances, please get in touch to let us know, as there may be things we can suggest which will help.

Glebe Farm School has become a serving centre for Foodbank MK, we have also partnered with St Mark's Meals, Hygiene Bank and Sals Shoes. If you are in need of any of these services or would like to talk to someone in confidence, please call or email Shaaron Forbes, sforbes@glebefarmschool.co.uk to access this support. If you know of anyone in the community who needs the support of Foodbank, which is run through our Community Hub, please let them know about our serving sessions that operate during term time, we are here to help.

We would also welcome donations of food, hygiene products, preloved good condition uniform and good condition children's shoes to support our families and community, these can be dropped off to Glebe Farm Reception during the school day.

Useful Contacts:

Contact your local Citizens Advice Bureau or Family Hub

Citizen's Advice Bureau (CAB)

You don't have to be a UK citizen to get support from your local CAB, you just need to be a resident of the local area. The CAB can help you with:

- Getting benefits or organising other financial support
- Accessing support for essential costs (food, bills, rent)

Visit the [Citizens Advice](#) website or contact your local branch to book an appointment. **0808 278 7991** you can also **TEXT** the word **ADVICE** to **70020**

Family Hub

Contact your local Family Hub to get help accessing all the support you might need as a family. [Find your local hub Children and Family Centres | Milton Keynes City Council \(milton-keynes.gov.uk\)](#)

Check you're paying the right amount of tax

Make sure you're on the right tax code. If you aren't you might be due a refund. Use the [Money Saving Expert's](#) free tax code calculator to find out.



Claim any benefits you're entitled to

Use 1 of these benefits calculators to determine whether there are any benefits you could be claiming:

- > [Turn2us](#)
- > [Policy in Practice](#)
- > [Support for migrant families](#) – use this calculator if you are a migrant family, or if you have no recourse to public funds (meaning you're not entitled to the majority of welfare benefits)

You may be able to get benefits paid early if you need cash urgently – this is known as 'a short-term benefit advance'. You will need to contact the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) office on [0845 604 3719](tel:08456043719) that's dealing with your claim.

Check you've received all the government's cost-of-living payments

The government's [cost-of-living payments](#) are available for those receiving certain benefits or tax credits. You don't need to apply for these – if you're eligible the money should go straight into your account.

If you think you're due a payment but haven't received one, [report a missing payment](#) to the government here.

Be aware of scams! If you receive any emails, texts or phone calls asking you to fill in an application form or asking for your bank details to receive a cost-of-living payment, **do not talk to them or send a reply**. Get more information on [cost-of-living scams](#) on the Money Saving Expert's website.

Find out what help you can get with your energy bills

Take a look at these resources from the [British Gas Energy Trust](#) and the [Money Saving Expert](#).

Check if your child is entitled to free school meals (FSM)

If your child is eligible for FSM you need to get them registered. This will allow them to get a free meal at school, and we'll get extra funding (known as the pupil premium) to support your child's learning.

Go to [this government website https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/sims](https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/sims) to check if your child is eligible. If they are, or if you're not sure, please contact the school.

See what other support you can get from your local authority

Local authorities have many schemes that you might be eligible for, including:

- > The [Holiday Activities and Food Programme](#) – access to food and activities over the school holidays. Note that if your child is eligible for free school meals (see above), they'll also qualify for this programme
- > [Help with transport to school](#)
- > [Help with school uniform costs](#)

Get free or low-cost food

If you're worried about not having enough food to feed your family, you're not alone. There are a number of places offering support.



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- Porridge is provided at school for free from 8am.
- If you have a child under 4, and meet the eligibility criteria, you may be entitled to healthy start food vouchers
- Use food waste apps and websites like Olio (for free food and household items from your local community), Too Good To Go (for low-cost food from local restaurants), or Low Price Foods (food that has passed its best before date, but is still safe to eat)
- Get more tips on free and cheap meals from Which

Replace or repair household items at a low cost or for free

Check if you can get broken household goods replaced or repaired by your local community.

- Get free household goods on Freecycle
- Get help with DIY repairs at a Repair Cafe

Find a warm space to beat the chill

Some community spaces open their doors to provide a safe and warm space for a few hours. Many also offer hot drinks and wifi.

Find a warm bank on:

- Warm Welcome
- Warm Spaces

Further information

- Contact StepChange for debt advice
- Contact Shelter if you're having issues related to housing
- Contact the Salvation Army for emergency assistance
- See if you're eligible for grants from Turn2us
- Single parents can get support from Gingerbread

