

To: all parents/carers

26 January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

We remain very aware that for some families the last year has been especially challenging and hard and that family circumstances may have changed. The current situation has left lots of people struggling to pay bills and buy food, and for many this is a situation that they have never previously experienced.

At Taverham High School we are keen to support our families over this period as much as possible. We would like to remind you there is support available through the Winter Support Offer from Norfolk County Council, a scheme that is designed to support as many families as possible this winter to access financial and other support if they are facing hardship. You can access further information at:

<https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/what-we-do-and-how-we-work/campaigns/winter-covid-support-scheme>

Help is also available to those suffering hardships because they are having to self-isolate or support their child or have vulnerable family members self-isolating through the Norfolk Assistance Scheme. This is initially a two-week provision which includes:

- Morrisons food boxes
- additional support with household essentials like nappies, formula milk and cleaning products
- PayPoint top ups for gas and electricity
- daily living allowance for living expenses and household bills where needed

You can access the application form by clicking on the following link:

<https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/care-support-and-health/support-for-living-independently/money-and-benefits/norfolk-assistance-scheme>

Local support is available through the Taverham, Thorpe Marriott and Drayton COVID19 Support Group which throughout the pandemic have provided support for our community with food, shopping, collecting medicines and supporting with gifts for Christmas.

At the start of this current lockdown the support group have set up a local food bank that anyone can attend without any questions asked or the need for vouchers. The food is being donated by local people, individuals and companies. The food bank is open every Wednesday between 10:30 am and 12:30 pm at Longdale Pavilion, Thorpe Marriott. Please bring a bag with you and you will be required to wear a face mask. If you are in isolation or do not have transport, please call 07835 113594 or email taverhamcovid19@gmail.com

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If you are worried and need some assistance accessing any of this support or would like to discuss your concerns, please contact me directly at r_ricketts@taverhamhigh.org and I will arrange a time to speak with you to see if we can support you in anyway.

Yours faithfully



Miss R Ricketts
Deputy Headteacher

