

Dear Micheal & Deirdre,

In light of yesterday's school closure announcement, emergency food provision boxes will resume over the period of school closures. Currently we will deliver one Food Provision Box to the homes of each of your students for the Month of January.

Find below Minister Heather Humphruys, press release on the announcement.
As this is something we now have considerable experience with, we can assure you a seamless service, delivered directly to the students homes.

In line with GDPR policies, all student data we previously received from you was deleted securely. To ensure your students receive the lunches they are entitled to, please supply us with the following details for participating students:

- Student Name
- Full Address
- Eircode (If possible)
- Parent Phone No (Essential)

Please note we have received permission from the Data Protection Officer to garner all of the required information. See attached correspondence from the Data Protection Office.

In return for this information, we will ensure:

- All information is protected in line with GDPR and deleted upon the reopening of schools.
- Ensure that we deliver as many packages directly as possible
- Work closely with An Post to ensure any remaining packages are delivered as soon as possible
- Work tirelessly to ensure that you do not have any additional work in relation to this service.

We have put considerable effort into ensuring that students will be cared for, both in the short term with direct provisions, and long term in trying to ensure a viable service upon the reopening of schools. We have over 80 staff and countless local suppliers who are very grateful for your support at this time and look forward to serving your students throughout this lockdown and into the future.

We hope that you and your staff are taking care of yourselves too. If there is anything we can do for you, please let us know.

The make up of the Food Provision Hamper will be:

1 Litre Orange Juice
500g Pasta
Tin of Fruit
Tin of Chopped Tomatoes
Flahavans Progress Oatlets Porridge
Kerrymaid Real Dairy Custard
Kennys Finest Quality Mayonnaise
Ambrosia Rice Pudding Pot
Batchelors Spaghetti Hoops 4 Pack
Bolands Custard Creams
Erin Soup Farmhouse Veg
Jacobs Rice Cakes - Yogurt
Nature Valley 5 pack Cereal Bar
McDonnells Chicken Noodles

School Meals Programme to Continue During School Closures

Wednesday, 6 January, 2021

Minister for Social Protection, Heather Humphreys TD, has confirmed that funding for the School Meals Programme will remain in place during the current period of school closures.

This mirrors the arrangements that were in place during the school closures in 2020, when the majority of schools in the School Meals Programme continued to provide food to children, largely through the home delivery of food parcels by suppliers.

Minister Humphreys said:

“As Minister for Social Protection, I recognise the importance of the school meals programme as a support for school-going children. I would like to re-assure parents that the funding for school meals will continue to enable children to receive food while schools are closed.”

The arrangements will not change from when schools closed previously: namely that the schools may continue to avail of the funding and they may continue to provide food consistent with normal funding terms and conditions. Schools must ensure that they continue to satisfy all public health guidelines. Ends.

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Note for Editors

The school meals programme provides funding towards the provision of food to some 1,557 schools and organisations benefiting 227,000 children. The objective of the scheme is to provide regular, nutritious food to children who are unable, due to lack of good quality food, to take full advantage of the education provided to them. Funding of €65.1m is provided for the School Meals Programme in 2021.