



To all Headteachers

Important: Action required

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Our Ref: DA/jah
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Dear Colleague

Free Bus Travel – for low income families this summer

I am pleased to inform you that colleagues in our Passenger Transport Service and local bus companies have again been able to put together the offer of free bus travel for low income families this summer break. It is fantastic news for the families involved, not least because it should help them to access the free Holiday Activity and Food Programmes.

I appreciate this news is being shared with you very close to the end of term, but the agreement has literally been signed off today. To ensure the quick and easy distribution of bus passes, these will be solely electronic. Again, Wonde have kindly agreed, at short notice, to enable their E-Voucher platform to be used for distribution. Wonde are currently putting the technical mechanism in place so that school's can issue the vouchers during the week commencing 17th July. We hope this will be on the 17th, but it will certainly be in place by mid-week.

I would be grateful please if your staff could go in to your school's e'voucher account during next week and use the Bus Pass button to issue these to your benefits related free school meals families, and any refugee families you have who are awaiting their eligibility for free school meals to be approved.

I appreciate some schools may have set terms dates such that this is their last week. If your school is unable to launch these free bus passes to eligible families next week, Wonde will be able to do so on your behalf provided they have written authority from the E-Voucher's account holder for Wonde to do so, using your management information system connection. Please email support@evouchers.com outlining your permission to launch Evouchers on your behalf and send Bus Pass vouchers to all FSM marked students within your MIS.

Once again, thank you for your support in getting this assistance to our most needy families. If you have any queries please contact me.

Yours sincerely

David Adams
Area Education Officer
South Kent