

Information for parents from Stockport Council

Stockport Council is committed to ensuring residents have the help and support they need as it continues to deliver the Department for Work & Pension's Household Support Grant. To provide support with the rising cost of energy, the council are awarding a voucher worth £45 to all households that meet the following criteria:

- In receipt of Council Tax Support and/or Housing Benefit from Stockport Council

Households in receipt of the above who received support through the Holiday Support Voucher scheme in February will NOT be eligible for this voucher.

Eligible families do not need to do anything to apply and will automatically receive a voucher. Vouchers will only be sent to families who were in receipt of Council Tax Support and/or Housing Benefit from Stockport Council on or before 21 February 2022.

The vouchers will be in the form of an explanatory letter which has a Post Office barcode in the bottom corner. Vouchers can be redeemed by taking the letter to any Post Office® branch and showing the barcode to the cashier. The appropriate cash amount will then be provided. No ID is required to redeem the voucher. Residents should visit www.postoffice.co.uk/branch-finder to find a Post Office branch and see the opening hours.

Vouchers will be received by eligible households from Saturday 25 March and must be redeemed within 3 weeks of the date of the letter. More information about the voucher can be found at <https://www.stockport.gov.uk/HESV>

Other support available:

Your Local Pantry scheme

The Your Local Pantry scheme by Stockport Homes helps people access affordable food from 5 locations across the borough. Memberships range from standard (£3.50 per week) to family (£6.50 per week). For more information visit www.yourlocalpantry.co.uk.

Stockport Council Support Fund

Stockport residents can apply to Support Funds for help such as a food bank referral; household items (cooker, fridge, washing machine); gas and electricity vouchers; help with paying Council Tax; help with a shortfall in rent; or help to apply to a charity or trust fund. For more information visit: <https://www.stockport.gov.uk/financial-support-in-a-crisis>.

Health Start Vouchers

Families who have a child under the age of 4 or are pregnant, may be eligible for support through the NHS Healthy Start Scheme. More information can be found at www.healthystart.nhs.uk.

Stockport Council Welfare Rights Team

A team of experienced specialist advisers can represent you at benefits appeals or if you have a problem with your benefits. For more information, visit: <https://www.stockport.gov.uk/help-with-benefit-appeals>. If you need any help completing the form, you can contact the Welfare Rights Team by email at welfare.rights@stockport.gov.uk or by calling 0161 217 6003.

If you need help getting online, contact the DigiKnow Helpline on 07537 127095.