

Water Primary School

Happiness, Health & Opportunity

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Dear Parent/Guardian,

I just wanted to share and make you aware of support which is currently on offer in Rossendale. Due to Covid a number of families may require extra financial support due to self-isolation, test and trace or through being self-employed. Help is available, please see below. If you need any further help or advice please get in touch.

COVID RELATED GRANTS AND SUPPORT

Test and Trace Support Payments

From 28 September 2020, eligible individuals are entitled to a Test and Trace Support Payment or discretionary support payment of £500. This is to support people on low incomes who are unable to work from home if they are told to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace and will lose income as a result.

These payments are designed to help ensure people who have tested positive for COVID- 19 and their close contacts self-isolate for the required period to stop the onward spread of the virus. They are also designed to encourage individuals who are eligible for this payment to get tested if they have symptoms. This is important to help stop the transmission of COVID-19 and avoid further economic and societal restrictions.

The scheme will last until 31 January 2021.

Who Can Apply?

Eligibility for a £500 Test and Trace Support Payment is restricted to people who:

- have been told to stay at home and self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace, either because they have tested positive for coronavirus or have recently been in close contact with someone who has tested positive;
- are employed or self-employed;
- are unable to work from home and will lose income as a result; and
- are currently receiving Universal Credit, Working Tax Credit, income-based Employment and Support Allowance, income-based Jobseeker's Allowance, Income Support, Housing Benefit and/or Pension Credit.

What If I Do Not Meet The 4 Conditions?

Local authorities can make a £500 discretionary payment to individuals who are on low incomes and will face financial hardship as a result of not being able to work while they are self-isolating. We have received limited funding from Government for these payments and will have to prioritise.

Further information and a link to the application form are available on the Council website.

Local Restrictions Support Grant

The Local Restrictions Support Grant (LRSB) supports businesses that were open as usual, providing services in person to customers from their business premises, but which were then required to close due to local lockdown restrictions imposed by government.



Eligibility

Your business may be eligible if it:

- Occupies property on which it pays business rates
- Is in a local lockdown area and has been required to close because of the formal publication of local restrictions guidance that resulted in a first full day of closure on or after 9 September. This funding is not retrospective

The following types of business may qualify

- Bars and pubs
- Licensed clubs
- Bingo halls,
- Bookmakers/betting shops
- Car boot sales
- Soft play areas
- Adult gaming centres (amusement arcades)

The most recent guidance to Local Authorities can be found on the Gov Site

Rossendale Borough Council has not yet received funding for these grants. We are also still awaiting further guidance to confirm the levels of funding available and if there will be discretionary funding available for companies that are not liable for business rates. Grants will not be paid until the finding and clarification is received from Government.

Applications for funding can be made via the Council website. We will then be able to process payments as soon as the funding is received.

Emergency Assistance Grant (to be launched from Monday 26 October)

The Local Authority Emergency Assistance Grant for Food and Essential Supplies is a one off contribution for local authorities in England to use to support people who are struggling to afford food and other essentials due to COVID-19.

The funding is intended to benefit individuals struggling to afford food and other essential items as a result of COVID-19.

In Burnley, Pendle and Rossendale the scheme is being administered by CVS.

Who can apply?

Applicants must:

- Be at least 18 years of age
- Be resident in Burnley, Pendle or Rossendale
- Be able to demonstrate that they are struggling to afford food and / or other essentials due to Covid-19
- not have any savings, access to other monies or affordable source of funding, or other means of accessing support

What can be provided?

A maximum award of £100 for food and £200 for essential items can be offered through this scheme.

Details will be available from 26 October via Rossendale Connected or Burnley Pendle & Rossendale Council for Voluntary Service (BPRCVS).

Yours sincerely

Mr Willan
Headteacher

