

## Household Support Fund Family Vouchers Policy September 2023

### Purpose

The Household Support Fund Family Voucher (HSFFV) scheme provides eligible families with a supermarket voucher to the value of £70 per eligible child.

### Overview

Families in Portsmouth can apply for a HSFFV between 25 September and 24 November 2023, unless the scheme closes sooner because all of the available funding has been distributed. The application will request information and supporting evidence to confirm the family's eligibility.

### Eligibility

To be eligible for HSFFV, a family must meet all the following criteria:

1. Resident in Portsmouth City Council's area (PO1 - PO6);
2. Have recourse to public funds<sup>1</sup>;
3. Receiving child benefit for a child aged 0-19, OR at least 20 weeks pregnant;
4. No £70 voucher was issued in respect of this child from a school between June-September 2023;
5. Total household earned and unearned income (excluding child maintenance, benefits and tax credit payments) of below £1,350 per month (or £1,246 per four weeks if they are paid weekly, fortnightly or four-weekly) in the latest pay period prior to their application;
6. Have submitted a complete application and provided all requested evidence of circumstances before the scheme closes.

This can include parents who meet all criteria above, who have children who are home-schooled (elective home educated), who attend independent schools in Portsmouth, or who live in Portsmouth and attend school outside the city.

### Exclusions

HSFFV has a limited amount of funding, and the scheme will close when the funding is used up. Any applications received after the scheme closes will not be eligible for a payment.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.nrpfnetwork.org.uk/information-and-resources/rights-and-entitlements/immigration-status-and-entitlements/who-has-recourse-to-public-funds>