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| T:\logo\Capture.JPG***Principal: Miss R Robinson******B Ed (Hons) M ED PQH******Tel: 028 38851778******Fax: 028 38852568*** |  **St Mary’s Primary School****84 Maghery Road****Maghery****Dungannon****Co Tyrone****BT71 6PA**  |
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**26th April 2021**

Dear Parent

**DE needs parent’s views on the Scheme to deliver Direct Payments in lieu of Free School Meals and the School Holiday Food Grant Payment Scheme.**

[DE Payment Schemes Survey](https://consultations.nidirect.gov.uk/de/free-school-meals-and-holiday-payment-plans-feedba)

The Department of Education is currently evaluating the effectiveness of the two similar but separate payment schemes: a scheme to deliver Direct Payments in lieu of Free School Meals and the School Holiday Food Grant Payment Scheme. These schemes have been providing financial support of £13.50 per child per week, as necessary, to families of children entitled to Free School Meals since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic.

I have been asked to forward you the attached link to a short survey which will also assist the Department of Education in planning for any future payment schemes. I would encourage you to complete the online survey - it should take no more than 2 minutes.

We are especially interested in the views of parents whose children are entitled to Free School meals.

<https://consultations.nidirect.gov.uk/de/free-school-meals-and-holiday-payment-plans-feedba/>

St Mary’s PS