



7th December 2021

Dear Parent/ Guardian,

Re: Christmas Food Bank Collection

Christmas is always a busy time, but our school community would like to make Christmas a little bit easier for people who are really struggling. We are going to collect items for the local food bank again after the success of last year's collection which allowed us to donate an amazing 793.41kg of food to the Kingfisher Food Bank in Smith's Wood.

The Trussell Trust, the UK's largest food bank charity, has seen food bank usage increase by 33%, with 226,337 food parcels given out in the West Midlands in just one year. Around 45% of food parcels given to people in Solihull went directly to children.

We've contacted the volunteers who run the local Kingfisher Food Bank and they've given us a list of the Top 10 items that they need, though they are happy to accept donations of any in-date tinned foods, dry foods and unused toiletries or hygiene products. The Top 10 items the Kingfisher Food Bank needs are:

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|--------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Tinned fruit | 6. Toiletries |
| 2. Rice pudding/ custard | 7. Squash or juice |
| 3. Chocolate | 8. Jam |
| 4. Crisps | 9. Noodles |
| 5. Nappies – size 5&6 | 10. Pasta snacks |

Tutors are going through a presentation with students which explains what foodbanks are, who uses them and why our school community would like to support the local Kingfisher Food Bank.

If you're able to, please consider supporting our efforts by sending your child to school with items on any day until the 15th December. There will be prizes for the tutor group and individuals in each college who donate the most items.

Kind regards,

Laura Ridley
College Leader - Safeguarding

