Good Afternoon,

I am writing to extend an invitation to a FREE upcoming School Information Session aimed at supporting parents and carers who may be facing financial challenges, especially as the winter is coming closer.

The current cost of living crisis is significantly impacting families and individuals across Stockton on Tees and beyond.

It is essential that we can all offer assistance and advice and help our families and children to reach out and access support services.

Stockton-on-Tees council and affiliated organisations are committed to helping during these challenging times.

This session aims to provide comprehensive details about the available support systems and resources tailored to households with school-age children.

Key Details:

Date: Wednesday 29th November 2023

Duration: 1.30 – 4.30pm

Venue:  Online meeting via Zoom/Teams (meeting link will be sent on confirmation)

Book Here: [Cost of Living Advice Session](https://digital.stockton.gov.uk/school-information-session-cost-of-living-crisis?eventid=1917-4425-5288-1544&bookingformid=602)

Speakers : Janine Brown, Stockton Citizens Advice

Vanessa Housley, Education Improvement Services

If you have any questions or queries about logistics, please feel free to contact me at [sharon.bimson@stockton.gov.uk](mailto:sharon.bimson@stockton.gov.uk) or contact Molly Karavatas. [molly.karavatas@stockton.gov.uk](mailto:molly.karavatas@stockton.gov.uk)

During this session, we will cover a range of topics including:

•             Welfare benefits relevant to households with school-age children.

•             Strategies to reduce energy costs.

•             Accessing available grants

•             Crisis support options including energy and data vouchers.

•             Schemes aimed at reducing expenditure on essential utilities.

•             Local resources such as food banks, community hubs, and practical assistance providers

•             Information on local organisations offering support and guidance.

The session is free and open to:

Primary and secondary School Teachers

Head of Year NS Assistant Heads of Year

Child Welfare/Support

School Business Managers

Senior Leaders

Governors

Parent Support Advisers

Family Support Advisers

Nurseries and settings

Childminders

Your attendance and participation in this session would be immensely valuable in supporting our collective effort to assist families in need within our school community.

Kind Regards

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