

Godmanchester FoodBank



Godmanchester FoodBank is a food bank in the Trussell Trust network and works in partnership with local groups and organisations that are in first hand contact with families, family groups with children and individuals. These organisations and groups - called Referral Agencies - can see when a need for emergency help arises can issue a voucher to people who need help without having to refer to the FoodBank first. Our partner agencies include Social Services, Children's Centres, Medical Practices, School at all levels and many others. Each Referral Agency is registered with GFB through a simple form that records then contact details of the agency, the name and role of someone with responsibility for the agency (a Manager, a Head teacher or similar worker) and a 'day to day' contact person who can order new vouchers etc. This could be a Social Work Business Support Assistant, Practice Nurse, a Child Protection or Student Welfare Officer. In addition we need the name and signature of anyone who might actually issue a voucher to someone. The number of people doing this will vary from agency to agency.

One a person has a voucher they can present it at the FoodBank where they will receive a food package appropriate to the number of children and adults to be fed. The 'shopping list' for the packages has been drawn up by the Trussell Trust in consultation with dietary experts and so represents food to provide balanced meals for up to 3 days. We only issue food that is tinned or in manufacturer's packets/containers because we do not have facilities to store fresh food. All the food we use is within sell by date (we check) and we check dietary concerns with the clients when they visit us.

There is always the opportunity for a sit down, a cup of tea or coffee and a chat but there is no requirement for clients to do this. As a FoodBank we rely on the Referral Agency to assess need because the agencies are in close contact with people who need help, so we do not ask any intrusive questions about a client's circumstances. Often clients will ask about how they might get further help and our volunteers have a lot of experience in helping people and we can signpost clients to others who can help - for example we have a very strong link with HAMA (Huntingdon Money Advice Agency) - a charity that helps people who have debt. All information from clients is treated with confidentiality.

Peter

Administrator GFB 20 09 2017

Godmanchester FoodBank is open at the following place and times;

Godmanchester Baptist Church, East Chadley Lane, Godmanchester, Cambridgeshire. PE29 2BJ
Monday 10.00 am to 2.00 pm and Thursday 10.00 am to 2.00 pm

**Please note that from time to time circumstances may make these hours vary.
Visit <https://godmanchester.foodbank.org.uk/> for the latest information.**