



Marcus Rashford Campaigns for Kids' Meals

Who is Marcus Rashford?

- Marcus Rashford, 22, is a professional footballer, who plays for Manchester United and England.
- He also helped a charity that provides meals for those in need.

Marcus Rashford, the gifted Manchester United and England footballer, has persuaded the government to provide children with vouchers over the summer who get free school meals.

Currently, some children receive free school meals. However, during lockdown, these children's families have been given vouchers to buy food at shops instead.

Originally, the government was going to stop giving out these vouchers in the summer holiday.

When Marcus Rashford heard this, he decided to take action. He wrote a letter to all MPs in parliament. He urged them to make sure that those in need could get free meals during the summer holidays too.

In his letter, he wrote: "Please reconsider your decision to cancel the food voucher scheme over the summer." He also mentioned how, when he was a child, his family "relied on breakfast clubs [and] free school meals."

After they received Marcus' letter, the government changed its mind. Now, the vouchers will continue be available over the summer holidays.

When he heard the news, Marcus said on social media: "I don't even know what to say. Just look at what we can do when we come together."

Boris Johnson told journalists on Tuesday that he had phoned the football star. Mr Johnson said he "thanked him for what he had done."



Illustration: Marcus Rashford.

Manchester United, his team, posted that he was "A hero. An inspiration. One of our own. We are so proud of you." United's rivals Liverpool FC called him a "role model."

This is not the only action that Marcus Rashford has been taking. He has been working with a charity called FareShare that aims to tackle hunger and food waste.

So far, he has helped the charity to raise almost £20 million. The money has been used to feed schoolchildren that get free school meals during the lockdown.

Glossary

government	Group of people who run a country.
MPs	Members of the UK parliament, elected to represent their area.
parliament	Where laws for a country are debated and passed.
scheme	A large-scale plan for a particular aim.

Questions

1. Find and copy an adjective in the first paragraph that suggests that the author thinks Marcus Rashford is a talented footballer.

2. Why did Marcus Rashford write to all the MPs in parliament?

3. 'He urged them to make sure that those in need could get free meals during the summer holidays too.'

Tick the word that is closest in meaning to 'urged'.

- encouraged
- helped
- informed
- wrote

4. Why do you think Manchester United considered Marcus Rashford to be an 'inspiration'?

5. Marcus Rashford has helped charities a lot. Find a piece of evidence that supports this.

6. Summarise the story in 15 words or fewer.

Answers

1. Find and copy an adjective in the first paragraph that suggests that the author thinks Marcus Rashford is a talented footballer.
gifted
2. Why did Marcus Rashford write to all the MPs in parliament?
He wrote to all MPs because he wanted them to provide vouchers over the summer for schoolchildren that get free school meals.
3. 'He urged them to make sure'. Tick the word that is closest in meaning to 'urged'.
 - encouraged**
 - helped
 - informed
 - wrote
4. Why do you think Manchester United considered Marcus Rashford to be an 'inspiration'?
Accept any answer which refers to him speaking out or taking action on something he believed in, e.g. I think Manchester United consider Marcus Rashford to be an 'inspiration' because he helped those in need.
5. Marcus Rashford has helped charities a lot. Find a piece of evidence that supports this.
So far, he has helped the charity to raise almost £20 million.
6. Summarise the story in 15 words or fewer.
Accept any reasonable summary that refers to the story, e.g. Marcus Rashford has persuaded the government to provide food vouchers for people during the summer.