



Ancaster  
Church of England Primary School

12<sup>th</sup> October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **Food in Schools**

I wanted to bring you up to date with lunchtimes in school as I have received many e-mails and telephone calls asking when we will be introducing hot meals back for the children.

It has taken a while as we have been looking at staff rotas, various sittings and the need to return to our school hall to eat hot/cold meals, whilst at the same time ensuring the health and safety of both children and staff. Having conducted this planning, it is our intention to introduce hot meals back onto the menu from **Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> October**.

From this date, all children will eat their lunch in the hall regardless of whether they are having a hot meal or eating food from home. We will be separating the hall into two separate spaces with dividing boards so that we can have two “bubbles” in there without putting anyone at risk. In between each sitting, both spaces will be thoroughly cleaned prior to the next group being admitted to eat. This is essential so that if we were to have a positive case in school we would reduce, as much as possible, the need for more bubbles to isolate than is absolutely necessary.

From Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> October, we will be offering the hot, vegetarian and cold options with a “dessert of the day” in order to keep our menu options as simple as possible. Please visit Good Lookin’ Cookin’s website and you will see the options available that we have agreed with Good Lookin’ Cookin’.

Meals for Foundation Stage, Year One and Year Two are fully funded by a Government initiative called *Universal Infant Free School Meals*. We would encourage all our families to take advantage of this opportunity. If you are finding that there isn’t anything on our menus each week that your children like from the choice, then please do let me know. We work closely with our provider, Good Lookin’ Cookin’ and I am happy to take feedback to them from yourselves in order to increase the uptake of meals. We want to support you in any way that we can and would much rather you did not have to purchase food when lunches are available to children in Foundation Stage, Year 1 and Year 2 free of charge. I also want to make sure that you feel that when you purchase a meal for your child in Key Stage 2 that you are receiving a meal that is enjoyable to your child and is value for your money. We also want to limit bags etc. coming backwards and forwards between home and school. If you are sending in a packed lunch we hope that parents/carers will provide a “healthy” lunch for their children, such as sandwiches, tortilla wraps, yoghurts, dried fruit or chopped salads.

I also want to take this opportunity to remind all our families of free school meals as part of the Pupil Premium Grant. The Eligibility criteria is as follows:

Ancaster Church of England Primary School  
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Head Teacher: Mr Sam Eden



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- Universal Credit with an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400.
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guarantee element of Pension Credit

If you feel that you are eligible and need any support in applying for the grant, please do not hesitate to contact me. As this grant also offers financial and education support in other areas, please do apply even if your child is already receiving free school meals under the Universal Free School Meals initiative. Once your child has become eligible and has received pupil premium, this is then carried through school for 6 years regardless of eligibility in the future.

Throughout COVID and lockdown, Good Lookin' Cookin' kindly relaxed their late order policy due to the constantly changing environment that we were all living in. Following the return of all schools and therefore an increase in meal volumes as schools, Good Lookin Cookin have reinstated their 'no late orders' policy. This means that you must order your meals by 11pm on the Thursday of the week before. We fully support this policy as ordering late leads to confusion and ultimately mistakes taking place that we could avoid. The lists are sent to us on the Friday prior to the week commencing so that we can plan and be as sure as we can be that we know what each child will be eating. Trying to change lists manually any later than this, as you can imagine, becomes a burdensome administration task and one we are keen to avoid. Only in extenuating circumstances, or a situation that we are aware of, will meals be added. Parents of children without meals due to late orders will be telephoned and asked to bring a meal in for their child.

Thank you for your continued support and patience whilst we begin the process of reintroducing hot meals. Please do not hesitate to e mail me directly should you have any issues or questions, my direct email address is [debra.moore@ancaster.lincs.sch.uk](mailto:debra.moore@ancaster.lincs.sch.uk)

Best Wishes

Debra Moore  
School Business Leader