

23 February 2021

## Welcoming Your Child Back for Lunch Safely

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you and your families have been keeping safe and well. As your school caterers, we'd like to update you on how we'll be providing lunches for pupils upon their return to school in March 2021

### Providing a Safe Service

We want to reassure you that we have been working hard to ensure our lunches can be enjoyed safely. We know every school is different, so are partnering closely with yours to introduce the most effective health and safety measures, environmental changes and menu choices for your community. These include risk assessments, training for our teams, new service layouts and, very importantly, enhanced hygiene guidance for everyone who enters the dining environment.

### What to Expect

We will, wherever possible, provide hot meals – returning to service on Week One of the menu children enjoyed prior to the closure of schools. If it is determined that a hot meals service cannot be provided safely (based on availability of space, equipment, school staff, etc.) then we will provide a temporary packed lunch offer instead. Please check your school's website for any revised menu choices, as well as for guidance on how to select your meals in advance of March.

Safety will never be compromised, but there may be some changes to the food offer as we adapt to any possible supply challenges (which we have seen during the past few months). For example, we may have menu variations or product swaps if we can't get hold of certain ingredients, but these will be made in consultation with your school and will not impact children with special diets.

### Great Quality Food

Our meals will continue to be freshly prepared from quality ingredients and we're working with our suppliers to support local and British farmers and food producers wherever possible. Our nutrition team and chefs will review all menu adjustments to ensure we continue to offer children healthy and delicious meals every school day.

### Free School Meals

We want to remind parents and carers that free school meals are available to all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 (known as Universal Infant Free School Meals – UIFSM). Children in

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additional year groups may also be able to enjoy school lunches free of charge if their family is eligible (known as Pupil Premium Free School Meals – FSM).

If your personal circumstances have recently changed and you'd like to find out more about these valuable Government schemes and support, speak to your school or visit [www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals](http://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals)

In the meantime, should there be any changes to Government guidance, we will work with your school to review our catering service.

If you could complete the questionnaire that the school has already shared with you regarding the uptake of a school meal upon return to school on 8 March if you have not already done so, for your convenience I have included the link [here](#)

If you have any queries or concerns, please get in touch with us at [hello@feedinghungryminds.co.uk](mailto:hello@feedinghungryminds.co.uk)

Thank you – we look forward to welcoming your child back to school soon.

Your ISS Catering Team