

Dear Parents/Carers

We want to take this opportunity to give you some really important information about your school meal service from September onwards and reassure you that we have everything covered so we can continue to feed children around the country safely.

At Aspens, many of our team are parents themselves and have faced similar challenges over the past four months – home schooling, keeping young minds positive and feeding them 24/7 to name a few.

We want to take this opportunity to reassure you that our food provision continues to be healthy, nutritious, and interesting, but above all else, safe in the unprecedented environment we have found ourselves in.

From September onwards, schools will kick start their minds, their mental health will improve when they are reunited with their friends and we want to make sure that we also contribute to their wellbeing by giving them nutritious food, safely, from day one.

We appreciate how many changes schools are still having to make to keep children and staff safe and we are working with them to offer the best food solution according to their individual requirements. We also need to make sure it's still an enjoyable experience for all.

Here's a summary of what we are doing behind the scenes to give you further reassurance as we head towards Autumn half term:

- Our due diligence procedures, including food hygiene and safety have new, enhanced recording procedures were introduced from September. Each meal service has been certified as being safe and compliant by our Head of QHSE.
- Our teams have carried out specific return to work and COVID-19 training and have been certified "fit to work" before returning. We are continually re-evaluating and improving our procedures. As well as updating our practices and procedures in line with Government guidance
- Our lunches provide a nutritious range of food that differs every day and will get their taste buds buzzing again. This will take the pressure away from parents/carers, having to provide that balance and variety with a lunch from home. We have increased our offer gradually since September and as well as a core food offer, we have lots of daily guests, both hot and cold to add more choice and variety.
- All changes have been made in conjunction with up to date government led guidance and advice, especially around social distancing, food safety and enhanced cleaning regimes. This includes working with our school's changes to timings and service locations as required.
- Food suppliers are supporting changes needed in delivery schedules to ensure that there is limited crossover and a 'no contact' process. For example, limited access to the kitchens will be allowed and delivery boxes are to be unpacked and wiped before storage.
- We have reviewed payment methods and ordering processes to ensure we are providing the safest method possible, in conjunction with the school a contactless card system has been introduced

We also understand that there may be some families that have had a change in financial circumstances and may now be entitled to apply for Free School Meals. Please look into this. This website helps you to establish if you can claim.

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>


We are experts in feeding school aged children and are really looking forward to providing your child with their school meal when we return in September. We also look forward to welcoming all the new starters to school.

I hope this letter has helped to reassure you and grow your confidence in our school food offer.


**Aspens Services**


This is an example of our current Temporary menus, in addition to the core offer there will also be daily changing guests available: Jacket potatoes, Pasta pots, Hot snacks, Cold Deli items

Sept 20 – Dec 20



**WEEK ONE**



	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>TRADITIONAL DISH</b>	<b>Chilli Pot</b> Lightly spiced beef & bean chilli, with steamed rice	<b>Chicken Curry Pot</b> Mildly spiced curry with chicken pieces and rice	<b>Pepperoni Pizza</b> Tasty pizza crust topped with tomato, herbs, cheese and pepperoni, with home-made 'slaw	<b>Chicken Burger</b> Special recipe coated chicken served in a bun, with oven baked wedges	<b>Chip shop Friday</b> White fish in batter or sausages, with small chips and peas
<b>VEGGIE DISH</b> 	<b>Veggie Bean chilli pot</b> Veggie friendly chilli, packed with beans, with rice	<b>Veggie Curry Pot</b> Mildly spiced Veggie & pulses curry and rice	<b>Italian Veggie Pasta pot</b> Herby tomato sauce, pasta, and optional cheese dusting	<b>Veggie Burger</b> Plant based burger, served with classic burger trimmings, with oven baked wedges	<b>Cheesy Beanz Wrap</b> Cheese and Beans stuffed in a wrap & baked, with small chips
<b>Hot DELI</b>	Daily visitors: baked seasoned jacket potato with toppings. <b>FRIDAY Guest star: Chips, Chips, lovely Chips!</b>				
<b>DELICIOUS DESSERTS</b>	<b>Home bake of the day or Fresh fruit</b>	<b>Home bake of the day or Fresh fruit</b>	<b>Home bake of the day or Fresh fruit</b>	<b>Home bake of the day or Fresh fruit</b>	<b>Home bake of the day or Fresh fruit</b>

**£2.20 Meal Deal : Cold Deli Grab Bag (Classic sandwich, Fruit or Bake & Water or Juice Cuplet)**

**£2.20 Meal Deal: (Main meal, pasta pot or Jacket. Fruit or Bake & Water or Juice Cuplet)**