

18<sup>th</sup> July 2019

Dear Parents/Carers

## **New Lunch Arrangements from Autumn Term 2019**

The contract with our present school lunch provider comes to an end at the end of the summer term and from September, Bugle School begins a new food adventure with Aspire Catering Services, the Trust's new in-house provider.

For the past few months, Aspire Catering Services has been trialling a bespoke menu across a number of Aspire academies, and pupil feedback has now informed a brand new Aspire school dinner menu which will be in place at Bugle School for the start of the autumn term.

Aspire Catering kitchen staff will offer children a varied menu of fresh, home-cooked and nutritionally balanced meals every day. Each dish is regulated to ensure they are nutritious and not only comply, but exceed, the School Food Standards, as set out by the government. Sustainability is also a key factor in our decision to bring our catering in-house and a wide selection of local suppliers are now working with the Aspire Catering team, these include Brian Etherington's Meats, Total Produce, Freshpoint, Savona and MJ Baker.

Jo Wotton, Manager of Aspire Catering Services, has been mindful to retain dishes that are 'safe choices', like the jacket spud, for the more wary. However, even if a child chooses a jacket potato, they still have the option to try the main meal, and hopefully in time they will feel more confident to give other dishes a go.

Aspire Catering Services will continue to serve all ingredients separately, as was the policy with our previous school lunch provider. This includes separating meat and sauces. Again, maybe in time and with some gentle and sensitive encouragement from trusted adults and friends, a nervous eater may feel brave enough to try the whole dish combined.

Finally, a reminder to all parents of Key Stage 1 (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) pupils, that children are entitled to receive a free school meal as part of the Universal Infant Free School Meals (UIFSM) initiative, regardless of what benefits are being claimed.

If you have any questions, then please contact the school office, by phone, email or in person and we will pass them on to Aspire Catering Services for response.

We appreciate your co-operation and support in this exciting new venture.

Yours faithfully

Mr T Wherry  
Senior Head of School