



📍 Ham Lane, Lenham, Maidstone, Kent, ME17 2LL  
☎ 01622 858260  
✉ office@lenham.kent.sch.uk  
Headteacher: Andrea McCluskey

14<sup>th</sup> July 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

### **New caterers from Sept 2023**

As we have advised previously, Lenham Primary School will be changing our contracted caterers with effect from September 2023. Our new caterers, Caterlink serve a number of schools in the local area and are well established within educational settings.

Caterlink say:

*“We are education catering specialists, meaning that we focus solely on primary, secondary, academy and college clients. Healthy eating is at the very heart of our approach to food. We wholeheartedly encourage balanced diets within our dining rooms and significantly invest in training our teams. Our policy of purchasing a range of seasonal produce from local and regional suppliers enables us to deliver exceptional value.”*

See their website for further details on their ethos and approach to meal provision.

<https://caterlinkltd.co.uk/>

### **Menus**

Caterlink have a 2 seasonal menus per year with a 3 weekly cycle. Menus are included with this communication including a visual menu to share with your children to help them make choices that they will enjoy the most.

### **Meal cost**

Unfortunately, the cost of meals is increasing to cover higher staffing and food costs, however this price is negotiated via the local authority to ensure that this is comparable with other local schools. The cost of a school meal from September 2023 will be £2.70. If your child is in **Year R, 1 or 2** from September 2023, meals will continue to be free of charge through the Universal Infant Free School Meals scheme. Children entitled to **benefits related free school meals in Years 3,4,5 and 6** will also not be charged for any meals.

If you are not currently registered for free school meals and feel you may be entitled, please apply via <https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/kent/> or complete a fsm form which will be sent out to all parents in a separate communication.

### **Payment for school meals**

You will continue, where required, to pay for school meals via ParentPay. Caterlink operate a no debt policy, so please ensure you have a credit balance on your account for your child to have a school lunch.

### **Current credit balances**



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We only have one week before the end of term, so please do use up any balances below £11.90 (cost of 5 meals). If your balance is greater than £11.90 and/or you know your child will not have lunches for all 5 days, please contact the school office. Nourish are responsible for refunding credit balances as the money is paid directly to them. Any requests for refunds before 25<sup>th</sup> July may not be processed. Caterlink are the new appointed contractors from 1<sup>st</sup> August 2023.

### **Current debit balances**

You must pay any outstanding debit balances before 25<sup>th</sup> July. Money owed for school meals is owed directly to Nourish. If outstanding debts remain after 25<sup>th</sup> July, the school will then be liable for your debt.

We are very much looking forward to working with Caterlink, and I am sure the children will enjoy the new menus they have to offer.

Yours sincerely

Mrs McCluskey  
Headteacher