

Ryecroft C.E. Middle School

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Dear Parents and Carers

It has been of a concern that we have not been able to provide a 'school meal' option to all of our pupils – currently we have only been able to offer a hot meal to those pupils in receipt of free school meals.

With current restrictions and control measures, delivering and providing a catering provision to all whilst ensuring all pupils remain safe and are appropriately supervised has been problematic.

We have therefore been in discussion with our catering provider looking at flexible ways on how to give all pupils access to a 'hot lunch'. For this to work we have had to look into the most effective ways to manage the ordering, payment and delivery of food.

We believe we have found a solution in the form of an app, where parents will be able to select and pay for school meals for their child using the Aspens Select App.

Details of how to access and use the app can be found by clicking on this link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0FXGFQYfxmU&list=PLsi5PKlfRwDXFq4c4ZnJBvnhCeReDlzik

The cost of the meals will be £2.40 - menus are attached to this email and will also be available via the Aspens Select app once it is live. Catering staff will deliver the 'Meal in a box', selected and paid for by parents, to the pupil in their 'Bubble' at lunchtime. Obviously, with the meals being delivered to the pupil, the menu will be limited but at least provides an option other than bringing in a packed lunch.

There is still some background work to get this system up and running but we are hopeful that the hot meal option will be available after half-term. You will of course be informed closer to launch date on how to download the app and access this service.

Parents of children in receipt of free school meals will also need to download the app and choose the required meal for their child.

Those pupils who bring a packed lunch from home can obviously continue to do so using the established procedures. However, please be assured that we always ensure that sufficient food is available in school should a pupil forget their lunch etc.

We very much hope these changes will be good for pupils and families.

Yours sincerely

Miss R Baramuszczak Headteacher

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