



18<sup>th</sup> September 2024

Dear Parents/Carer,

**Re: Update – School Meals**

We are writing to apologise for the ongoing disruption to the school meal service at Minsthorpe Community College, and to offer an explanation for the current situation. As you will be aware, the College site is currently undergoing considerable building work and improvements to existing buildings in terms of asbestos removal and fire safety.

During the summer term, this involved the school kitchen and canteen building. We were only given access to this building during the last few days of the summer holiday. On our return to the kitchens, the large ovens used for hot meals were found to be no longer working. Unfortunately, these have since been condemned. We are now in the unexpected position where we need to buy new ovens with an anticipated delivery time of over four weeks.

For this reason, our current provision of hot food is considerably limited. We are only able to provide:

- Pasta King
- Chicken burgers
- A limited number of jacket potatoes each day
- A limited number of pizza slices each day
- Chip butties (twice each week)
- Fish and chips (Friday only)

When placing lunch orders via the School Gateway app, the menu for each day will be displayed. If on any given day there is not a hot food option displayed, this will be because we have reached our current maximum capacity to be able to cook these items. For this reason, we would recommend placing orders as soon as the menu becomes available, and ideally for the whole week until this situation is resolved.

We had expected to resolve this situation more quickly. We have now asked the Catering Team to explore other options for hot food.

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**Principals** Mark Gilmore & Rachael Merritt



We thank you and your child for your understanding and continued patience with this unavoidable situation.

Yours sincerely

Mr M. Gilmore  
Principal

Mrs R. Merritt  
Principal

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