



Chalkwell Hall Infant School

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September 8th 2025

NEW SCHOOL DINNER MENU, BEGINNING MONDAY 15TH SEPTEMBER

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are writing to you today with some exciting news regarding our school dinner menu! We've listened carefully to your recent feedback, and as a result, we're making some positive changes to ensure our school lunches are even better for your children.

Our main goal is to provide **healthier, delicious, and appealing** meals for all our pupils. Here's what you can expect from the new menu:

- **Homemade and Wholesome:** Where possible, meals will be homemade with a focus on incorporating hidden vegetables and using wholemeal options.
- **Variety for All:** We understand that every child has different preferences, so our new menu aims to offer a wider range of choices to cater to various tastes. While one child might love a particular meal, another might not, and that's perfectly normal!
- **Two-Week Rotating Menu:** We've reverted to a two-week rotating menu to give children the opportunity to try a greater variety of dishes throughout the term.
- **Daily Jacket Potatoes with More Options:** Jacket potatoes will be available every day, but we've expanded the filling choices significantly. Plus, if the main meal can be served on top of a jacket potato (like chilli with grated cheese), we'll now offer that as an option!
- **Compliance with Food Standards:** Please be assured that all our menu changes strictly **comply with food standards** regulations.
- **Encouraging Wholesome Meals:** We believe the meal should be seen as a whole. To ensure children are satisfied and get the nutrients they need, we'll be encouraging them to choose the vegetable or salad options as a side with their main meal.
- **Puddings and Fruit:** Puddings will be offered occasionally, while fruit will be available every day as a healthy dessert option. Children can also choose salad as a side with any meal choice.

As always, we will continue to monitor food waste and speak to the children regularly about their likes and dislikes. Their feedback is invaluable and will help us make further adjustments to the menu as needed.

We truly appreciate your support in encouraging your children to have school lunches. Without your continued support of our meal service, it can become financially unsustainable.

Please remember that we can accommodate allergens and most dietary requirements. If your child has specific needs, please don't hesitate to speak with the school office.

Finally, we encourage you to talk to your children about the new menu, especially about the daily choices and the importance of choosing the whole meal, including the side options. Thank you for your continued partnership in ensuring our children receive nutritious and enjoyable school dinners. A copy of the 2 week menu is attached and will begin on **Monday 15th September with Week 1.**

Kind Regards,

Sarah Clements
Headteacher
Chalkwell Hall Infant School