

3rd September 2024

RE: Introduction of new catering provider, Aspens Services.

Dear Parents/Carers,

From 4th September 2024, we will be welcoming a new catering provider, Aspens Services, to serve Priory Belvoir Academy. We conducted a thorough tender process, which involved presentations from various companies to both staff and students across the Trust. We are committed to providing an exceptional dining experience for our young people and based on the presentation given by Aspens Services, we are confident that they share the same commitment.

We are delighted to be welcoming Aspens due to their dedication to creating menus which are nutritional, varied and representative of our student population. Our students were a key part of the selection process and in response to student voices, the new menus will feature a broad selection of meal options, including vegetarian and vegan choices, as well as meals inspired by different cultures.

Meal Pricing

You may be aware that the price of our school meals has remained at the current price for several years; however, we now need to make an adjustment to cover the rising cost of living. We understand that any increase in expenses can be a concern for families, and we want to assure you that this decision has been made after careful consideration and a thorough review of operating costs. As a school committed to delivering excellence in education and student well-being, it is essential for us to offer your child a wide array of nutritious, balanced and substantial meals.

Starting from 4th September 2024 the price for the set school meal deal will be changing to £2.60.

Those children that are eligible for free school meals have their accounts credited daily, so students can purchase their meals alongside friends. Those entitled to them are treated with the strictest confidence.

Aspens offer a wide range of food for mid-morning break and lunch time, including the meal deals. In addition to the main traditional meal and pudding, they offer pasta with a range of toppings, jacket

Headteacher: Mr L S Newton

The Priory Belvoir Academy, Barkestone Lane, Bottesford, Nottingham NG13 0AX

Tel: 01949 844920 **Email:** generalenquiries@belvoiracademy.co.uk **www.belvoiracademy.co.uk**

The Priory Belvoir Academy is part of The Priory Federation of Academies Trust. For further information please contact:

The Priory Federation of Academies Trust, Cross O'Cliff Hill, Lincoln LN5 8PW **Telephone:** 01522 889977

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potatoes with fillings, and a range of sandwiches to eat in or grab and go along with tasty morning break offer, available to all year groups everyday.

Free School Meals

We would like to share some information regarding Free School Meals. Recent figures show that 23.8% of students in England now qualify for Free School Meals, representing over 2 million children. The percentage has increased once again this year, rising from 22.5% in 2022 and 13.6% in 2018.

You may be eligible for Free School Meals for your child(ren) if you receive any of the following:

- **Income Support**
- **Income-based Jobseekers Allowance**
- **Income-related Employment and Support Allowance**
- **Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999**
- **the guaranteed element of State Pension Credit**
- **Child Tax Credit (provided they were not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and had an annual gross income of no more than £16,190, as assessed by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs)**
- **Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit**
- **Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits)**

Registering for Free School Meals is a Quick and Easy Process

You can apply online by visiting: <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>. If you are unable to complete the form online, please visit the academy, and a member of our office team will provide you with the necessary support. Please be assured that your application will be treated with the utmost confidentiality, and it will not affect any other benefits you may be receiving.

If you have any questions, concerns, or feedback regarding the adjustment in the price of set meals or the new provider, please do not hesitate to contact the academy. We welcome your feedback and are committed to ensuring that Aspens provide a fantastic catering experience for your child.

Yours faithfully



Mr L S Newton
Headteacher