



Guru Nanak Sikh Multi Academy Trust

Aspire ~ Acquire ~ Achieve

Founder: Sant Baba Amar Singh Ji

Chief Executive Officer: Mr Jaskamal S. Sidhu

2nd May 2023

Dear Parent

RE: Fire and Stove Restaurant

We have had a really busy two weeks since the holidays in the 'Fire and Stove' restaurant trialling the new menus and updating the kitchens. The collaboration with Chefs in Schools is a long term project and we knew that some menu items would be a hit and others would be a miss. Every day we are talking to the children about what they do and do not like on the menu and adjustments are being planned for as a response to their feedback. Therefore, it may be that what is on the current published menu changes at short notice e.g. Cauliflower being swapped with another ingredient.

All meals are prepared using fresh ingredients that are seasonal and prepared from scratch meaning that there is an improvement in the quality. The team are trying out alternative ways to cook the food to ensure that the nutrients your children need are present and there is a proper balance to each plate of food. Some parents have asked about why such a change is needed and there is more than one reason which has become apparent over time.

Firstly, as an Academy, we always aim to meet the School Food Standards as set out by the Department of Education which we have attached to this letter. It contains key information about what should and should not be included in a school restaurant menu. We have sourced the expert catering advice to help us to achieve this with Chefs in Schools.

Secondly, the Academy has grown but the kitchen has not. Chefs in Schools are helping us to refit the kitchens and source equipment to help with food preparation and service. We need to have kitchens that meet ambitions of the menu and allow for the serving of food to 1500 people.

Thirdly, many pupils and parents voiced concern over the food that was available before and so we have looked to a solution; again, with the support of experts in school catering. Chefs in Schools works with over 70 schools across the country and are bringing in expertise to support the 'Fire and Stove' restaurant. Over time we will be able to bring about improvement but there will be occasions when pupils are asked to try new flavours and tastes to help educate them about food. Please rest assured that if pupils do not like something they can speak with the staff member on duty in the canteen.

Finally, thank you so much for all the support and feedback you have given us so far as we try to revamp the food in the 'Fire and Stove'. Should you wish to contact the restaurant please use the email address cateringsupport@gnsa.co.uk and we will respond to your query.

Yours faithfully

The 'Fire and Stove' Team