

Abbey Farm Educate Together Primary School

October 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

We wanted to share an update with you about the food we provide at school and the work we are doing to prepare for the updated School Food Standards, which all schools are expected to meet from September 2027.

We have already reviewed our current menus against the new requirements and are pleased to say that the changes needed are relatively minor. Our existing menus already provide a good foundation, and we are building on this to make sure we are fully prepared for the changes ahead.

Rather than making all of the changes at once, we are taking a gradual and considered approach meaning we can make small adjustments over time, give children the opportunity to try any new or adapted dishes, and listen to their feedback along the way.

What are we doing?

Over the coming months, our catering teams will be:

- Making a small number of adjustments to recipes and menus where needed.
- Continuing to provide a good variety of fruit, vegetables and other nutritious foods.
- Reviewing the balance of wholegrains, fibre and different sources of protein.
- Making any necessary changes to the frequency of certain foods in line with the new standards.
- Trialling any new or adapted dishes before they become part of the regular menu.
- Listening to our pupils and taking their feedback into account.
- Continuing to make sure children with allergies, medical diets and other dietary requirements have appropriate choices.

What does this mean for children?

There will not be a major change to our school food provision. We want children to continue to enjoy food provided at school, so we will use the coming year to introduce and test any changes, rather than making lots of changes at once.

We will also use feedback from children and our catering teams to make sure that the meals we provide are both nutritious and enjoyable.

Why are we starting now?

Although the new standards come into effect from September 2027, we want to be well prepared. By making relatively small changes gradually, we can make sure everything is in place well before the deadline and that children have time to become familiar with any new or adapted dishes.

Our aim is to reach September next year with menus that are fully compliant with the new standards, while continuing to provide the varied, nutritious and enjoyable meals that our children already know and love.

We will keep you updated as we make these small improvements over the coming year.

ETAT Trust