



16 July 2020

Dear Parents

**Re: Nursery Dinners**

We are very pleased to inform you that from next week we will have nursery dinners back on the menu. This means that packed lunches are no longer required to be provided by parents as the children will be able to have a cooked lunch at nursery.

**Parent Feedback**

Over the last week or so several parents have asked us when we are likely to start serving again as their children have started to become a bit fussy with their food. We have listened to this and understand the difficulties this is causing for some children and appreciate it is not ideal to continue long term on packed lunches.

**Dinner Provision**

At present we still have no staff free to cook our dinners which, has been the obstacle all along. However, to help us overcome this issue we have asked Willow café (next door) to supply us with a cooked meal for the children each day until either Kim in the kitchen returns or we have other spare staff available to provide kitchen cover.

Once again Willow, enthusiastically offered to help and have offered to provide us with dinners throughout the Summer holidays. This is great news for us as it means we can provide the children with a nutritious hot meal each day. Its great news for parents as you will no longer need to make a packed lunch each day and its fantastic news for Willow as it keeps them busy. We love the staff at Willow, and we are so excited to be working in partnership with them again, especially as it is for the benefit of the children.

The menu is still being devised between the nursery and café, but ultimately it will be made up of many of our meals that the children already love such as pasta, curry dishes and roasts. The café will cook the meals from scratch and use locally sourced ingredients just as we do here at nursery.

**Costs**

As we are now outsourcing the food, the nursery will pay the café for the meals we have. If you pay in full for your child's day, then the cost of your dinner is already included in your fee and therefore there will be no additional charge. If your child's day is funded and you'd usually pay for a lunch then we will start to introduce this charge to your invoice from Monday and the cost will be £2 per day, as per our fee structure applied in March 2020. We appreciate that not everyone dislikes sandwiches and should you wish your child to continue to bring in a packed lunch from home then that is absolutely fine and no dinner charge will be made to you. However we must stress that to make the ordering process as uncomplicated as possible you must let us know in advance if your child does not require a dinner- this will prevent a charge being added to your invoice and reduce any food wastage.

As soon as we have finalised the menu, we will issue this to parents. We can make alterations and offer an alternative if you feel your child will not eat the meal being

offered but please be mindful that substitute options will be limited as a member of staff will not be free to make an elaborate alternative!

We are confident the plans outlined above will be welcomed but if you have any questions about these plans then please do email the nursery on [halesfield@telfordnurseries.org](mailto:halesfield@telfordnurseries.org) If you do not want your child to have a cooked meal then please let us know ASAP. This is particularly important if your child is funded, as there will be an additional charge to your invoice for dinners starting from next week.

We always welcome feedback and strive to make improvements where needed. Once we have this up and running then please let us know what you think. We need to know if it is working and your happy.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Helen Childs', written in a cursive style.

**Helen Childs**  
Nursery Manager