Welcome to the Dining Hall!

Starting secondary school is an exciting time and one of the big changes is using the Dining Hall for your meals. To help you get the most out of your break times, we've put together some useful information about what you can expect. Take a moment to read through some handy hints & tips below.

- **When Can I Buy Food?**
  Food is available during [two break sessions]
  Morning Break: [9:50am – 10:15am]
  Lunch Break: [12:15pm – 1:00pm]
  The same food options are usually available at both times, so you can choose when to eat based on your day.

- **What's on the Menu?**
  There are clear tariffs (price lists) displayed around the Dining Hall and at the counters. Each item has a label showing the name and price. If you're unsure, just ask one of the Aspens catering team – they're always happy to help.

  All food items are paid for individually, just like in a shop.

- **What is a Meal Deal Offer?**
  The [£2.85] Meal Deal is your best value for money choice

  Offer 1 - Main Meal with Water or Cake
  Offer 2 - Pasta with a topping with Water or Cake
  Offer 3 - Jacket Potato with 1 filling and Water or Cake
  Offer 4 - Just Sandwich range with Water or Cake

- **How Do I Pay For Food?**
  You'll need to pay using your cashless account. To make sure you always have money to spend:

  1. Check your account regularly.
  2. Top up online, ideally the night before – this ensures the money is available for the next day.
  3. If your balance is low, the till staff will give you a reminder. If this has not been done we will allow you to eat but you might be limited to what you can have.

Created by Jenni Spratt – Student Engagement Manager

- **Free School Meals**
  If you were eligible for Free School Meals in your primary school, you will need to re-register with the council for the secondary school. Please see the information provided by the school.

  Here is the link for information on Free School Meals and to claim if you are eligible;
  https://www.lbbd.gov.uk/benefits-and-support/free-school-meals-pupil-premium

  The daily Free School Meal allowance is to the value of £2.85. This is automatically loaded onto your account each day. You can also add additional funds to your account should you wish to do so.

- **Food Allergies or Intolerances**
  This is extremely important. If you have any food allergies, intolerance, or dietary requirements, you must let the school know as soon as possible, as this information will be added to your account so that the catering team are aware.

Need Help?
If you're ever unsure or would like to speak to one of the Aspens catering team. We are always happy to help and answer any questions.

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Pupil 5-Point Checklist
Following these tips will help your experience run smoothly every day:

- ❑ Check you have money on your account
- ❑ Think about your food choices available to you
- ❑ Give yourself enough time to queue, buy your food and eat
- ❑ Don't buy food for others – your account is only for you
- ❑ Keep within your budget

We're excited to have you join us in the Dining Hall and begin your taste bud journey. Whether you're exploring new flavours or enjoying familiar favourites, we're here to make 'Great School Food Memories'!