

Your Child's New Food Journey Awaits...

Hi, we're HCL, your schools new lunch provider.

We're passionate about food and believe in providing a balance of healthy and delicious meals for children to enjoy at lunchtime. We have a team of Nutritionists, Chefs and Menu Coordinators who work hard to ensure lunchtimes are tasty and nutritious.

Each dish we create includes quality ingredients that contribute to providing a balanced diet and promote good health. Having a healthy, nutritious, and tasty meal at lunchtime gives children the 'fuel' they need to learn and grow.

In this welcome pack you'll find more information on our **menu offering**, **food accreditations**, and the **benefits of a school lunch**. You'll also find out whether your child qualifies for a **free school meal**, what to do if your child has an **allergy** or requires a **special diet**, and **how to easily register and order** your child's school meals.

We hope your child enjoys our school meals just as much as we enjoy making them.

From the HCL Team

Join us at our next Parent Taster

If you're interested in chatting to our team, and trying some of the meals we offer, speak to your school to find out when the next event will take place.

Our mission goes beyond delivering meals; we're dedicated to creating exceptional dining experiences to pupils that cater to the diverse needs of all our schools.

We'd love to hear your feedback and answer any questions you may have at the event.



@hclcatering

www.hcl.co.uk

HCL Registered Office: Mundells,
Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire,
AL7 1FT | **T: 01707 938625**



Choosing School Meals Feeding Healthy Minds



The Benefits of a School Lunch

As your child's school lunch provider, we aim to make lunchtime an enjoyable experience for pupils, that's why our team of food developers and nutritionists work hard to create meals that are both tasty and nutritious.

Our menus offer a wide variety of healthy main meal choices. We are fully compliant with the **Government's Food Based Standards**, our main menu is **Bronze Food for Life accredited**, and our desserts are **SUGARWISE platinum accredited**.



There are many benefits to having a cooked school lunch, including:

- Nutritious meals full of energy-fuelling ingredients, lead to a better learning environment.
- At least one portion of fruit and vegetables in every serving.
- Confidence that all meals meet nutritional standards.
- Convenient for Parents and Carers.

Sourcing local, fresh, and quality ingredients is important to us, which is why we work in partnership with leading suppliers including **Bidfood, McCain, Quorn, Tilda, Young's, Heinz and ProVeg.**



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How To Order Or Register For School Meals...

Ordering your child's daily lunchtime with HCL is done online through SchoolGrid (<https://app.schoolgrid.co.uk>).

SchoolGrid is an easy-to-use ordering and payment system,

whereby parents and children can view their lunch menus, including the nutritional information of each meal and order their preferred meals.

Pre-ordering your child's lunch can be done online at home and if

your child has an allergy, the dishes unsuitable may be blocked from view. You can easily order your child's

lunchtime meal for a day, week, month, or a whole term.

When your child collects their lunch at school, they will select their name on a **touch screen** during lunchtime service and their meal choice and dietary needs (if any) will be displayed.

If your child is not entitled to free school meals, you can pay for their meals by **card payment** if your school supports it.



How to get started

To get set up, give your email address to your school's office and they will provide you with a SchoolGrid account. You'll receive an email from SchoolGrid with instructions on how to log in and get started.

If your child has an allergy or special dietary requirements, please visit the **Allergy Management System** section of the HCL website www.hcl.co.uk/allergy-overview or speak with your school's office for further guidance.



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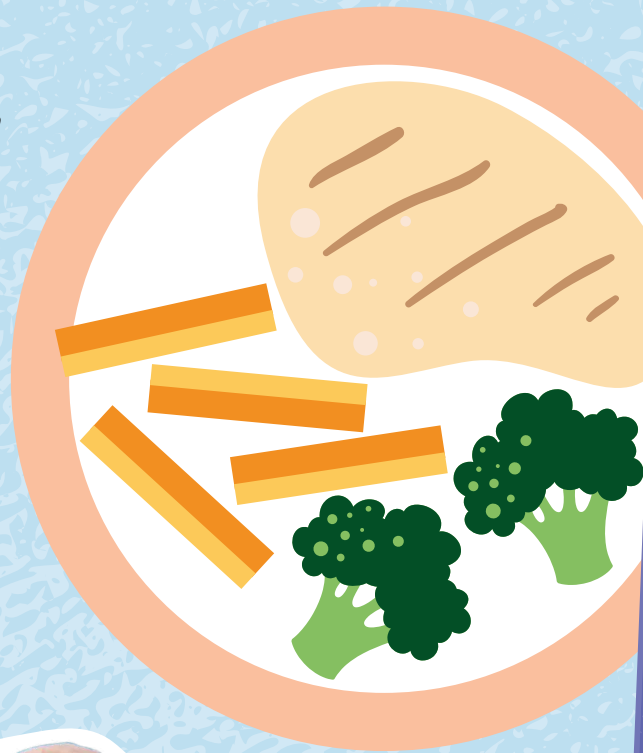
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Does Your Child Qualify For A Free School Meal?

We believe that every child should have access to healthy, nourishing meals that give them the foundations to grow, learn and achieve their potential.



Did you know...

All pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 in state-funded schools in England are eligible for a Universal Infant Free School Meal (UIFSM). You do not need to apply for UIFSM for your child.

Your child may also be eligible for free school meals if you receive certain benefits. Visit the government's website for more information: www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals.

Choosing free school meals for your child instead of a packed lunch can save you up to £1000 over a 2-year period.



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Does Your Child Have Any Dietary Preferences?

We have a rigorous process in place to provide a safe meal service to pupils with food allergies or intolerances, which we supply on behalf of your child's school.

If your child has a food allergy or intolerance and meets the qualifying criteria, then we have a range of delicious and nutritious menus designed especially for your child's medical requirements.

Our online **Allergy Management System** is easy to use and takes just a few minutes to set up your child's profile. Visit specialmenu.hcl.co.uk to get started

HCL operates a strict No Nut Policy - which means our meals do not have nuts or nut traces in any of the ingredients we use.

Pupils who need to monitor their carbohydrate intake, can view this information directly from our website; there is no need to apply for a Special Diet.

Here's what you'll need:

- Your child's school details including class name
- Medical evidence of your child's medical requirements
- Electronic passport style photograph (which you will need to upload on to our system)

Once you have created your account you will be able to easily update the school and HCL with any changes to your child's dietary needs in the future. You will also automatically receive new menus when they change (twice yearly).

If you need any further support, please see the 'Frequently Asked Questions' section of our Special Diets website or alternatively you can email HCL.Nutritionist@hcl.co.uk.



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How We Help Our Communities And The Planet...

We take our responsibility to protect our planet and people very seriously. As part of this, we're committed to achieving net zero emissions by 2030.

We're also taking additional steps to reduce our environmental impact by:

- We've removed single use plastic from our catering services in our schools.
- We support schools with gardening initiatives; helping pupils and teachers learn the importance of growing their own vegetables.
- We work with our suppliers to replace any negative environmental impacts with positive ones. Meeting these requirements is mandatory for all our suppliers.
- Raising awareness and educating our school communities through community support sustainability workshops, including lessons on reducing waste to landfill.



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Want To Join Us?



If you're looking for a career change or new role, then why not consider a career at HCL?

We're recruiting for passionate individuals to join our kitchen teams. We believe it's important for our employees to enjoy their place of work. That's why we offer good work life balance and a positive and supportive work environment.

Our kitchen roles offer term-time, family friendly hours, a competitive salary, career progression and other benefits including life assurance and a pension scheme.

If you're interested in joining our team, then please visit our website to view our current vacancies and apply today!

[hcl.co.uk/join-our-team](https://www.hcl.co.uk/join-our-team) ▶

We Value Your Feedback...

We want to make sure everyone feels valued and can add value. It's important to us to work in partnership with our pupils and parents to gain valuable feedback about your experience with us.

“
My son is very happy with the choices provided at school, and he normally eats everything offered to him! He likes choosing from a menu each day
Primary school parent
Stevenage

“
My child is really enjoying his school lunches, and the HCL menu offers some of his favourite meals. I feel like I have one less thing to worry about, knowing that he is having a healthy and 'yummy' lunch every day!
Primary school parent
Knebworth



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