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UPDATE ON OUR SCHOOL MEALS PROVIDER

Dear Parents / Carers

As you are aware, North Tyneside Council are no longer providing school meals following the Easter holiday. We will be using Mellors Catering from Monday 15th April 2024. You can find out more about them here: www.mellorscatering.co.uk

We understand that this is a change to our lunch provision and routines, please be assured that we are here to support you with this.

Paying for meals

All payments for your child's meals for school lunches will be paid to school directly, this will be managed through School Gateway (the system that we currently use for Zumba / residential trip payments).

All parents / carers must have a login regardless of whether your child:

- ☐ gets free meals due to being in Reception – Year 2,
- ☐ is eligible for means tested free school meals or
- ☐ they pay for their school meals.

Please can we ask you to do this as soon as possible so that all meals can be pre-ordered for your child for the return to school after the Easter holidays.

Parent pre-order:

The new system requires parents/carers to pre-order their child's meals online. We hope this will lead to greater meal uptake as parents/carers and children can pinpoint exactly what they want to eat each day and, as it's ordered, will ensure your choice is always available to your child.

Please view the new menus via the School Gateway app and book and pay for your child's school meals for our return to school on Monday 15th April. Meals can be booked up to 3 weeks in advance or each day before 8am. Through the school app, you can view lunch menus for Weeks 1-3. If your child is entitled to UIFSM (Children in Reception – Year 2) or FSM (benefit related free school meals), you will still need to choose your child's meals, but these will be free of charge.

If you pay for school meals, you will need to make payment via the app before you can confirm your meal choices.

Dietary requirements

If your child has specific dietary requirements and these are not catered for upon your meal selection, please do not choose any meals for your child and inform the school office by emailing office@amberleyprimary.co.uk and we will inform Mellors upon return to school. Your child will still receive

a meal as the catering team are aware of their dietary requirements.

School Gateway App

Please could we ask that all parents / carers register for the School Gateway app ASAP. Thank you to those parents / carers who have registered for this already.

Please find below instructions for how to download the School Gateway app:

A new, free, smartphone app for parents is now available for download called 'School Gateway' for Apple (iOS 8 on the iPhone 4S or later, iPad, iPod Touch) and Android devices. Please could you download this new app to your phone (it's free). The set-up process is simple and will take no more than a couple of minutes:

1. Search for "School Gateway" in the Apple App Store/Google Play or on your phone go to www.schoolgateway.com/apple (Apple) or www.schoolgateway.com/android (Android)
2. Install the app and if you are asked then say yes to "Allow Push Notifications"
3. When you launch School Gateway for the first time, please select 'New User' and enter the email address and mobile telephone number you have registered with the school
4. The system will send a PIN code to your phone; please enter this PIN code and the app will be activated for you. As soon as you've got the system set-up, all of the payment request messages we send you will appear in the School Gateway app.

Thank you for your continued support

Mr Rigg

Headteacher

