



# The Sutton Academy

Together Students Achieve

Principal: Mr P Willerton

4 February 2026

Dear Parents/Carers

Many of you will be aware that on 1 January, the academy moved to a new catering company, Caterlink. Transferring over the Christmas period is not an ideal time, but unfortunately this is when the previous contract ended. There was a large amount of interest in the catering contract at the academy, Caterlink were successful and scored particularly strongly on:

- Providing significant investment in the infrastructure of the catering offer over the next three to five years. Plans for this will be shared in due course.
- The quality of food on offer; having researched impact at other schools there was a significant increase on students having a traditional sit-down meal at lunchtime, we do not want to scrap our 'grab and go' offer but we also felt there should be healthy main meal alternatives

I have had numerous conversations with students and have received a small number of emails from parents/carers. The general feedback from students has been the quality of the food is better but comes at a cost with prices rising significantly. We have tried to ensure that prices over the last few years have stayed affordable, in the face of raising inflation and costs, and it is feedback that we have taken back to Caterlink.

Having met with Caterlink over the last half-term, we have agreed the following:

- We shared the comparison of costs with Caterlink, to highlight the increase in prices particularly of the "snack" options which students buy during morning break time. Caterlink have reviewed their pricing and from next week have made the following changes:
  - Bacon Sandwich reduced from £1.95 to £1.20. Now at a lower price than previous caterers by 10p
  - Sausage Sandwich reduced from £1.95 to £1.20. Now at a lower price than previous caterers by 10p
  - Waffles reduced down from £1.10 to 85p, 15p cheaper than previous caterers but they are smaller in size than the previous caterer.
  - Reduction in price of Cookies from £1.00 to 85p
- The meal deal is still priced at £2.95, which aligns with the Free School Meal allowance. Caterlink initially made this as two items, a main meal and either a drink **or** dessert, however after discussion this will now include a main meal, drink, **and** a dessert. This will hopefully reduce the costs when students buy a drink or dessert additional to the meal deal.

As always, we will continue to monitor this, and students will be involved in feeding back their thoughts on the meals on offer. We ask that parents/carers discuss with their child how they can budget across the week, the Arbor app allows parents/carers to see how much is being spent each day and on what items. We ask that you please sit with your child and discuss with them what they should and should not be buying each day.

If you have any concerns or further feedback, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours faithfully



Mr P. Willerton  
Principal



Our Values:



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