



July 2017

Dear parent/carer

You have previously notified us that your child has a food allergy, intolerance or special dietary requirement.

HCL, the school meal provider at Thomas Coram, have introduced a new online system to make provision for those with a food allergy or who require an amended menu for religious or cultural reasons.

Children **already receiving a special menu** and those who may wish to have school meals for the first time **are required to reapply**/apply through the new system. The system is accessed via the HCL website [www.hertscatering.co.uk/allergy-menu-application](http://www.hertscatering.co.uk/allergy-menu-application). Application/reapplication should be made as soon as possible in preparation for the new school year.

To ensure that food groups are not withdrawn from pupils' diets without medical supervision and to also ensure that we have a full understanding of the medical implications, applications for pupils requiring a special menu for medical reasons can only be made with supporting evidence from a medical professional. If you do not hold medical evidence there is a form that can be downloaded and taken to a GP for them to stamp and sign.

A range of vegetarian dishes are provided as standard, so those requiring a vegetarian menu or those not wanting to include pork, beef or non-Halal meat in their diet need not apply.

HCL have produced a leaflet explaining the new system, which we have enclosed with this letter. There is also guidance throughout the online application and there is a list of Frequently Asked Questions, but if you don't have access to the website, have any queries or require assistance then please feel free to phone HCL on 01707 292 500 or email [nutritionist@hertscatering.co.uk](mailto:nutritionist@hertscatering.co.uk).

Yours sincerely

Mr R Halls  
Headteacher