



THE PEGASUS ACADEMY TRUST



WHITEHORSE MANOR
INFANT SCHOOL



ECCLESBOURNE
PRIMARY SCHOOL



WHITEHORSE MANOR
JUNIOR SCHOOL



BEULAH INFANT &
NURSERY SCHOOL



CYPRESS
PRIMARY SCHOOL



ATWOOD PRIMARY
SCHOOL

Executive Principals:

Mr M J Roberts & Ms L D Sampson

Head of School: Mr P Robins

1st May 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

School Lunch Consultation

Following a request conveyed through the school reps, we are writing to consult with parents about a potential change to our school lunch menu and to invite your views as part of the process.

As a school, we are committed to creating an inclusive environment where every child feels respected, valued and able to participate fully in school life. An important part of this commitment is ensuring that our meal provision reflects the needs of our diverse school community and allows all pupils equal access to school lunches.

With this in mind we are consulting on the introduction of halal-certified meat as part of our school meals.

Some parents may wish to understand the difference between halal and non-halal meat. In simple terms, the main distinction relates to the method of preparation and slaughter. A key principle of halal meat is that a prayer is said at the time of slaughter. In the UK, halal meat supplied to schools must still comply with national animal welfare and food safety laws.

We are aware that some people may have questions or reservations about halal meat often due to misunderstandings around slaughter methods. We would like to reassure parents and carers that all meat served in school meets UK legal standards and our suppliers follow approved welfare regulations. Any halal meat supplied to schools must also be produced in line with recognized animal welfare standards and is regulated and inspected in the same way as all other school food.

Halal meat is widely used in the local community. For example, many local restaurants such as Smoque, The Med Kitchen and Maple all serve halal meat demonstrating that it is a well-established and accepted catering practice.

Due to practical, operational and food safety considerations, it is not feasible to change the menu to cater for halal and non-halal meat dishes to be produced together. If the school moves with this proposal, then all meat served in school lunches would be halal-certified. The school would continue to offer vegetarian and non-meat options as usual.

We want to reassure parents that this proposal is aimed at supporting inclusion and enabling all pupils to enjoy school meals together. The use of non-halal meat in our current menu means that some children are prevented from eating some school lunches. It also prevents some children from taking up the offer of Free School Meals that is now available to all children in London schools.

We value the views of our parents and carers and believe consultation is an important part of making inclusive and informed decisions. At this stage, no decision has been made as we are seeking the

opinions of everyone in the school. If you wish to register your opinion, please fill in the questionnaire using the link at the bottom of this letter. Please take the time to reply so that we can get as broad a range of responses as possible. Thank you for your time, understanding and continued support in helping us maintain a respectful and inclusive school community.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Paul Robins
Head of School

<https://forms.gle/U9einaWoa5cNSox48>