

24/1/18

Dear Parents,

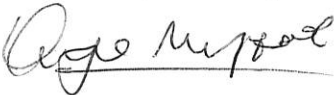
I am writing to inform you that following a recent tender exercise we have awarded a contract for the supply of catering services to Caterlink. The company was chosen following a rigorous selection process which involved a detailed application, an interview and presentation, and tasting sessions attended by pupils from DBMAC schools. We selected Caterlink on the basis of their fresh and innovative approach to providing school meals and their willingness to invest in kitchens and equipment across the DBMAC. Caterlink are a highly regarded catering company with a good deal of experience of providing school meals services, and already have contracts with a number of Oxfordshire schools. I attach a company brochure for your information.

Currently half of our schools have catering services provided in-house and half are provided by The School Lunch Company. Changing suppliers means that staff from both companies will be offered the opportunity to transfer to the new company. At this stage, we anticipate that the majority of staff will do so. We will be managing this transfer in two phases. The first phase is already underway and will result in DBMAC staff who choose to do so moving to Caterlink on April 1<sup>st</sup> 2018. This will affect St Gregory the Great, St Joseph's, Thame and St Thomas More. During the second phase, The School Lunch Company staff who choose to do so will transfer to Caterlink on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2018. This will affect St John Fisher, Our Lady's, Cowley, Our Lady of Lourdes, Witney, and St Joseph's, Carterton.

As we get closer to the transfer dates we will arrange for Caterlink to come into your school so you and your child/ren can have the opportunity to meet them, try some of their food and discuss their plans for the service. In the meantime, we aim to keep you updated about the progress of the transfers.

Should you have any questions at this stage, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me by email at [V.Moffatt@dbmac.org.uk](mailto:V.Moffatt@dbmac.org.uk) or by contacting me at the number above.

We are very excited by this change and look forward to introducing you to Caterlink in due course.



Virginia Moffatt

(Procurement and Contract Manager)

