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## **School Meal Service Update**

Dear Parents,

Please find attached a letter from Cheshire East Catering Service informing parents of their decision to cease trading from April 2025.

As a result, all schools which use this service, including our school, are having to find an alternative catering provider. We are extremely disappointed with this decision but have no choice.

I can confirm that our tender process is well underway and we are currently reviewing bids from other suppliers against a strict criterion. Any new supplier will not be able to start trading at our school until January 2025, at the earliest.

This means that from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2024, until a new provider is in place, we will have to pass on the increase in school meal prices charged to our school to our parents. Families who access universal and income related free school meals will not be affected.

From September, a school meal at Alderley Edge Community Primary School will be £3.40 per meal.

We apologise for this increase but are unable to subsidise this cost from our school budget which is already very stretched.

As we have more details regarding the new supplier we will communicate this to parents.

Kind regards

Lindsey Walsh **Head Teacher**