

04 July 2024

To: All Parents, Guardians and Carers

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Carers,

## **INCREASE IN THE PRICE OF COLLEGE MEALS**

I am writing to inform you that the price of lunchtime meals at the London Design & Engineering (LDE) UTC will increase to £2.86, effective from 1st September 2024.

This decision has not been made lightly, as it marks the first increase in meal prices since the College opened in September 2016. Considering the rising costs of food and wages over the years, we have managed to maintain our meal prices at £2.41 for an impressive eight years. However, it is no longer sustainable for the College to subsidise these costs and maintain the current price.

We believe that £2.86 per meal still represents good value for money. For this price, your child will receive a highquality, nutritious main course and a dessert, or a main course and a drink. All meals will continue to be halal, with vegetarian/vegan options available. Additionally, local schools are charging similar amounts for their lunchtime meals, so we believe our new price is reasonable.

Please be assured that the College will continue to cover the cost of lunchtime meals for children eligible for Free School Meals. We hope that all other parents will understand the necessity of this increase and can manage the additional cost, as it is crucial for all children to have a daily nutritious meal for their health and well-being.

Thank you for your understanding and continued support.

Yours faithfully,

**Geoffrey Fowler** Principal London Design & Engineering UTC

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