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Our aim is to create a happy school where every member feels valued and able to achieve personal excellence.

Date: June 2026

Ref: CV/AJ

Dear Parents and Carers,

School Lunches - HCL (Hertfordshire Catering Limited)

Leighton Middle school lunches are provided by HCL. They provide a home cooked service with as much locally sourced food as possible. Freshly cooked bread and a free choice from a salad trolley is provided each day in addition to the children's meal. At mid-morning break the children in each Year have a dedicated day that they can purchase a snack from the dining room.

The price of a school meal is £2.65 for a meal deal, which is a main meal and a dessert. A main meal without a dessert can be purchased for £2.40. These charges will not affect those who are entitled to free school meals.

HCL has a process in place for pupils with food allergies. HCL's allergy system https://hcl.co.uk/allergy-overview for the initial overview, FAQ for Allergies are found here https://specialmenu.hcl.co.uk/faqs Parents will need to create an account for their children at https://specialmenu.hcl.co.uk/ and provide the relevant information relating to their allergies.

If your child brings a packed lunch, please send it in a clearly labelled container for which your child must be responsible. Children eat under supervision in the Dining Room. No child may bring hot drinks, fizzy drinks, or sweets to school. We aim to be allergy aware, and this includes being as nut free as we can.

HCL in partnership with Live register work on a cashless till system. To facilitate this, pupils will need to have their fingerprint scanned, but in the meantime, each child will be given a pin to use. The fingerprint scan only scans three sections of a child's fingerprint. All fingerprint data is held securely on in-school servers and is never uploaded to any web or cloud services and no staff can see the actual biometric data that is captured. A permission form can be found under the parents' section of the website for your completion.

If you wish your child to be able to purchase a school meal or break time snacks, it is important that your child has an account. Please sign up to the cashless system and ensure there is an appropriate balance on the account. This is crucial whether you intend for your child to have regular or ad-hoc school meals or break time snacks. No cash can be accepted.

Parents can pay daily, weekly, or half-termly in advance by topping up via Arbor. You will be sent a registration link to connect to Arbor, please join as soon as you can so that you are able to add money for your child's lunches. Once you have registered go to "Account" in Arbor and then top up.

Yours sincerely

C Vallance
Head Teacher