

Thursday 23rd September 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Catering Arrangements at RGTS

Olive Dining (our catering contractor) have notified us this week of some challenges currently being faced with respect to running their usual service.

Staff Shortages in the Hospitality Sector

Olive Dining has been affected by staff shortages that are currently being experienced by the whole hospitality sector. Also, some vacancies at Olive Dining have been taking longer than usual to fill due to a lack of personnel within the wider hospitality sector. At times, this has meant lower staffing levels within their catering team on site at RGTS, and consequently, the service has been slower than would normally be expected.

Food Availability

Whilst advance orders of food were placed before the summer break, difficulties in their supply chain have resulted in some food items not being available (e.g. some bread items). This is linked with the nationwide shortage in delivery drivers and CO₂ (which is widely used in preserving food during distribution). Olive Dining have informed us that they may need to make some substitutions to the published catering menus on an ad-hoc basis over the next few weeks.

In addition to the challenges above, the dishwasher used throughout lunch service is temporarily out of operation, awaiting replacement parts; this is also affecting the usual service operated by Olive Dining.

To avoid queueing longer than is necessary, when the lunch queue is already full, children are encouraged to take 5-10 minutes of their break time in the playground, whilst the lunch queue is reduced.

We are working with Olive Dining to try to resolve these issues and will notify families with updates in due course. If you have any individual concerns, please contact us the school via email – info@rgtrustschool.net or by telephone – 0208 312 5480.

We thank you for your support and continued patience.

Yours sincerely



Mr Martin
Assistant Headteacher