

12<sup>th</sup> June 2020

Dear Client,

As schools begin to reopen, we would like to update you on some of the positive work Chartwells have been continuing in recent months to enhance the support we provide to *safeguard* your pupils with medical diets, as well as to develop a new tool that will support schools meet the Department for Education's '*Healthy Schools Rating Scheme*'.

### **Medical Diets – Launching our updated approach**

Medical diets are an extremely important part of our catering provision and we are dedicated to ensuring as many pupils as possible can safely enjoy a school meal. Over the past year, Chartwells have been a leading member of an industry-wide group, established by LACA\*, working to establish *national guidance for the safe management of allergens* at school mealtimes.

In line with this national guidance and ahead of September 2020, Chartwells are pleased to be releasing some new materials for clients, parents and pupils to support with communication about medical diets and make our policy more accessible:

NEW!

- ✓ **Medical Diets Policy**
- ✓ **Parents' Guide to Medical Diets**
- ✓ **Chartwells Medical Diets Responsibility Promise**

To ensure our detailed *Medical Diet Policy* is clear and meets the most robust safety standards, it:

- ✓ Has been reviewed by an external leading UK lawyer specialising in allergens
- ✓ Has been reviewed by Chartwells' Primary Authority for assured advice
- ✓ Is fully GDPR compliant and has been reviewed by Compass Privacy team
- ✓ Has been surveyed with parents to ensure it provides the right support for their needs

Our new '*Parents' guide to Medical Diets*' summarises the support we offer, guiding parents through the medical diet process, which includes:

- ✓ Supported Chartwells Medical Diet Menus for Primary age pupils
- ✓ New fully digitalised and updated Medical Diet Request Form for parents
- ✓ New tool to support parents obtain the required evidence from a medical professional

These documents are both available now at: <https://loveschoolmeals.co.uk/medical-diets/>.

To further support our clients with safeguarding their pupils and to strengthen our partnership in this responsibility, we are also pleased to share the '*Chartwells Medical Diet Responsibility Promise*' which:

- ✓ Outlines our commitments for managing medical diets safely
- ✓ Provides information about how we can best collaborate to safeguard pupils in your school environment

For more information on Medical diets, please contact your Chartwells Operations Team who will be available to discuss the new resources in more detail. Furthermore, do not hesitate to contact the Chartwells Medical Diets Team at: [Chartwells.medicaldiets@compass-group.co.uk](mailto:Chartwells.medicaldiets@compass-group.co.uk).

### **Chartwells Promise – How Chartwells support the ‘Healthy Schools Rating Scheme’**

The Chartwells Promise document has been created to:

- ✓ Demonstrate how Chartwells can support the Department for Education’s ‘Healthy Schools Rating Scheme’
- ✓ Support your school to develop a bespoke healthy eating policy
- ✓ Promote a strong partnership in achieving the school’s goals for building a healthy school environment.

Chartwells Promise is available electronically and to request a copy, please contact your Chartwells Operations Team in the first instance.

We hope that this reassures you that we are doing all we can to support you and keep your pupils healthy and safe at school.

Yours sincerely,



Meg Longworth

Director of Nutrition, Medical Diets and Sustainability

(\*LACA: the Lead Association for Catering in Education)