

11th October 2021

Good Morning

As you will be aware, The Food Information (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2021 came into effect on the 1st of October 2021 and requires food businesses (including school kitchens) to provide full ingredient lists and allergen labelling on foods pre-packaged for direct sale on the premises. The legislation was introduced to protect allergy sufferers and give them confidence in the food they buy.

This means we have had to make some minor adjustments to our P1 to P4 Hot Packed Lunch Order Form. A copy of the updated forms is attached.

This amendment was brought about thanks to the actions of a lobbying group lead by the parents of Natasha Ednan-Laperouse, the teenager who died after suffering an allergic reaction to an undeclared ingredient in a prepacked meal. Due to their efforts, the government confirmed that stronger laws would be implemented to protect those with food allergies and give them greater confidence in the food they buy. According to the new rules, PPDS (Prepacked for Direct Sale) food must clearly display the following information on the packaging:

- Name of the food.
- Full ingredients list, with allergenic ingredients emphasised in bold.

It is essential that we all follow this guidance.

Could you please re-send forms to parents and highlight how important it is that parents provide all information regarding any allergies or intolerances their children may have, so that school offices and school kitchens can update all information on pupils. We cannot empathise enough the importance of receiving this information in order to assist our teams in the provision of food.

If a pre-selected lunch order has not come into the kitchen either via order form or parent pay on the day, the lunch will be selected by the school office or class room teacher.

Our thanks for your help on this matter.

Regards

Catering Team
Midlothian Council