



4 | SPECIAL DIETS

HCL's approach to meeting cultural and medical dietary needs delivers the objective "an understanding of allergies, dietary requirements, nutritional needs and a willingness to meet with parents/carers to discuss their child's individual needs." Supporting this, we have two in-house nutritionists to provide on-hand expertise, ensuring all required meals are medically and culturally appropriate.



Primary Schools

We have a bespoke Allergy Management System (AMS), which enables parents to detail their child's medical or cultural requirements and upload photos and medical documents, alongside specific information relating to their special dietary needs. This ensures we provide culturally/medically appropriate food that meets pupil's exact requirements. Parents are made aware of the system and how to use it through a Welcome Letter.

Depending on each pupil's requirement, our nutritionists will develop an appropriate menu; wherever possible, keeping it as close to the standard menu cycle. In the majority of special diet menus, pupils receive a choice of meals.



Secondary Schools

For students with specific medical diets, we can meet students and parents on-site to highlight available menu choices, meeting their dietary requirements. To deliver these requirements, operations teams are supported by our nutritionists, as well as bespoke training in catering for special diets.

Allergens/Natasha's Law

As of 1st October 2021, we have complied with Natasha's law, clearly labelling all of our products with allergy information. This is done through our Saffron recipe management system, where all recipes (including allergy information) have been uploaded; the system interfaces with our labelling system (Label Logic) and prints out the appropriate label.



We have the following special diet pupils registered with HCL:



MEDICAL DIETS:

2135



LIFESTYLE/
RELIGIOUS DIETS:

546

The Nutrition Team has created the following menus to meet pupil requirements:



GENERIC:

24



LIFESTYLE/
RELIGIOUS:

6



BESPOKE:

428

NATASHA'S LAW SIGNAGE USED IN OUR SCHOOLS

