

# 2026 INFORMATION



Partners with

The  
**SCHOOL  
FOOD**  
people  
LACA

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LACA

[www.theschoolfoodpeople.co.uk](http://www.theschoolfoodpeople.co.uk)

Every day, across the country, thousands of children experience more than a meal — they experience care, nourishment, and opportunity. As the National Chair, I am honoured to welcome you to this year's Partners Information. Despite challenges like underfunding, rising costs, and recruitment struggles, our sector continues to deliver with resilience and creativity — ensuring every child receives a hot, healthy, freshly prepared meal, wherever they live.

Our shared purpose extends beyond food. Healthy, sustainable school meals transform lives, boost wellbeing, and strengthen communities. Together, we will champion fair funding across the UK, protect school meal budgets and ensure the smooth roll out of the extended FSM scheme as well as ensuring every child on Universal Credit receives the support they deserve. But this partnership is also about people — the suppliers, caterers, and chefs driving our mission. Thank you for your passion and belief as we shape a fairer, healthier future — together.



**Brad Pearce**  
National Chair & Director

## Benefits for Partners in 2026:

- Infographics slide deck **NEW** for Regions
- The School Food People Industry Landscape Research
- Retweet Package - 4 per year
- Email shot to The School Food People Members - 2 per year
- The School Food People website - ad slots on home page with Partner ads on rotation
- Sponsorship of The School Food People newsletter - 4 times per year
- Fortnightly partner interview/Q&A on website promoted via newsletter
- Video ad breaks in The School Food People Seminars/Webinars
- Annual Main Event and Exhibition Package (July 2026)
- Public Affairs – Campaigning and Lobbying
- The School Food People Website to promote company products, offers and promotions
- Three Associate Memberships (1 being from your Marketing Department) to The School Food People with access to the Membership Database
- High profile recognition – Sponsorship of National Campaigns and Events
- Two exclusive Partners' meetings each year with the The School Food People National Steering Group and current key note speakers – access to latest 'thinking' to help develop your own business strategy
- Having a 'united voice' – Elected Partner Representatives to the Board and Working Groups
- Use of 'Partner with The School Food People' logo for your business communications
- Complimentary Allergen Training Courses for Partner representatives and access to the The School Food People E-Learning programmes at members rates for Partners' employees
- Business Opportunities – Networking with industry leaders and potential customers

Our **Partnership Package** runs from January to December each year, with the option to renew on a yearly basis.

The cost of joining the Partners' Scheme for **2026** is only **£12,800<sup>00</sup> +VAT**.

**PAYMENT NEEDS TO BE CLEARED BY THE END OF MARCH PLEASE.**

If you require a **Partner Enrolment Form** please email [admin@theschoolfoodpeople.co.uk](mailto:admin@theschoolfoodpeople.co.uk) or call **0333 005 0226**

## Vision and mission

*“Together we achieve excellence in school food”*

We are here to give everyone who provides catering within the education sector a voice – as well as the knowledge, resources and support to make nutritious and healthy food part of everyday life. We do this each day because great school food helps young people to thrive, concentrate, enjoy school and achieve more.

“

*We believe that investing in School Meals means investing in a **healthier future** for our children.*

”



## Partners Meetings

Two meetings each year (in Spring and Autumn 2026) will be arranged with the LACA National Steering Group to share information and update you on related national issues, Government policies, market positioning etc.

Partners have the opportunity to contribute to the meeting agenda, network and discuss the key issues that affect suppliers, future policy and decision making through LACA.

- The Partners must elect a representative from amongst their number to attend the Board of Directors meetings for the year by April, in order to attend Board meetings from the April meeting. The election will take place at the Partners' meeting in March 2026.
- A deputy should be elected at the same time to ensure attendance at all Board meetings.
- It will be the responsibility of the representative Partner to keep their colleagues informed and updated on meetings attended.



Discover more



Annual Membership Benefits



Advertising Website/Yearbook E-newsletter & Social Media



Membership Lists



Groups and Representatives



LACAnet



Regions



Protocol for Partners



2026 SHOW AND FORUM

Dates: Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> to Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2026 Venue: The Hilton Birmingham Metropole Hotel

### Included in your Partnership package:

- 3m x 2m stand space
- Accommodation for two people in single rooms for two nights
- Breakfast for two
- Two places at the Show & Forum

- Two places at pre-event ice-breaker evening
- Two places at the Gala Dinner
- Two places at the Chair's Reception prior to the Awards Dinner
- Additional places or stand space can be requested via the organisers at a preferential Partner rate





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## Partners Logo

Partners with LACA can use the LACA logo in conjunction with the words "Partners with LACA" on their company stationery, advertisements, and promotional materials where appropriate.

Logos can be supplied in JPEG format on application to  
[admin@theschoolfoodpeople.co.uk](mailto:admin@theschoolfoodpeople.co.uk)



## Partners Contacts

### Partners' Scheme

Stephen Forster

[stephen@theschoolfoodpeople.co.uk](mailto:stephen@theschoolfoodpeople.co.uk)

Kath Breckon

[katherine@theschoolfoodpeople.co.uk](mailto:katherine@theschoolfoodpeople.co.uk)

### Membership

James Beaumont

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### Business Director

Neil Porter

[neil@theschoolfoodpeople.co.uk](mailto:neil@theschoolfoodpeople.co.uk)

### Finance

Hilary Witt

[hilary@theschoolfoodpeople.co.uk](mailto:hilary@theschoolfoodpeople.co.uk)

### Partner Representative

Gavin Squires

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LACA Ltd is a limited company registered in England and Wales. **Registration Number:** 6795804

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LACA Ltd is a VAT registered company. **VAT Reg. No.:** 689 2384 79

