



Soil *Association*
FOOD FOR LIFE
CATERING MARK

**WHAT IS THE
FOOD FOR LIFE
CATERING
MARK?**

www.sacert.org/catering



The Catering Mark is an independent endorsement, backed by annual inspections, which awards and recognises food providers who are taking steps to improve the food they serve.

The Food for Life Catering Mark is a clear signal that a caterer is serving food that uses fresh ingredients which are free from undesirable additives and trans fats, meet UK welfare standards, and complies with national nutrition standards.

The Catering Mark is a widely respected scheme, recognised by the Department for Education, the Department of Health and in the Government's Plan for Public Procurement, that is raising standards of food quality, provenance and sustainability in public and private sector catering.



The Catering Mark encourages and rewards caterers that:

- Serve fresh food
- Source environmentally sustainable and ethical food
- Make healthy eating easy
- Champion local food producers



Why achieve the Catering Mark?

The Catering Mark can help you to:

- Add value to the catering offer through a respected independent endorsement
- Increase customer footfall and meals purchased on site
- Save money through sourcing more food locally and cooking from scratch
- Win new business, meeting increasing consumer demand for healthy and sustainably sourced meals
- Boost the local economy with a £3 social return on investment for every £1 spent on Catering Mark menus*



How is the Catering Mark measured?

The Catering Mark is awarded at three levels based on the steps that a caterer is taking towards the Catering Mark values. These levels are bronze, silver and gold.

For a full copy of the required standards and advice on how to meet them, please contact us using the details on this leaflet.



// Reaching one million daily Catering Mark meals is a hugely positive sign... Massive credit to all the caterers and suppliers who are already working hard every day to serve up great quality, delicious, nutritious food. Whether it's in a hospital, school, factory canteen or office café, here's to the next million meals! **//**

Jamie Oliver

* Kersley H. The Benefits of Procuring School Meals through the Food for Life Partnership: An Economic Analysis. London: new economics foundation, 2011



How do I apply for the Catering Mark?

It is simple to apply for the Catering Mark and you may well be already meeting many of the required standards.

Visit www.sacert.org/catering/applynow to find out more and apply, email catering@foodforlife.org.uk or call 0117 914 2406

The Catering Mark team will guide you through the application process and provide ongoing support for your inspection.

Food for Life Catering Mark Soil Association Certification

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