



School Council

Expression of Interest (EOI)

Canteen service at Mernda Park Primary School

Reference Number: EOICanteen1

Submission Details:

Closing Time: 4 pm

Place of Lodgement: 40 Riverdale Boulevard, Mernda

Receiving Staff Member: Finoula Murray

Additional Details: All EOI submissions must be hard copy, in a sealed envelope, clearly marked Mernda Park Primary School

Please provide 1 hard copies of your EOI submission.

The submission must also be provided via email. EOI submissions must be received at the following email address before the Closing Time:

Mernda.park.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Submissions must follow the format attached, including the completion of all Forms, plus supporting documentation and any additional requested information.

CONDITIONS

1. EOI Presentations

Mernda Park Primary School does not warrant the accuracy of the content of the EOI. The School will not be liable for any omission from the EOI document.

2. Confidentiality

The School may require persons and organisations wishing to access or obtain a copy of this EOI (or information relevant to this EOI) to execute a deed of confidentiality in a form required by, or satisfactory to, the School before or after access is granted.

Whether or not execution of a deed of confidentiality is required by the School, all persons obtaining or receiving this EOI and any other information in connection with the EOI must keep the contents of the EOI and such other information confidential and not disclose or use that information except as required for the purpose of developing a response to this EOI.

3. EOI Documents

All responses to the EOI and any accompanying documents will, upon submission, become the property of the School. The School will not return any of these documents.

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By submitting a response to this EOI, the service provider licenses the School to reproduce the whole or any portion of the documents which it has submitted for the purposes of, or in connection with, its evaluation, notwithstanding any copyright or other intellectual property rights that may subsist in those documents.

4. Enquiries

Enquiries concerning the EOI must be made to the following Contact Person:

Name: Finoula Murray
Title: Business Manager
E-mail: mernda.park.ps@education.vic.gov.au

All enquiries concerning the EOI must be in writing and can only be made up to three (3) days prior to the Closing Time.

The School will respond to enquiries correctly lodged in accordance with the above conditions in writing and the response from the School will be provided to all parties that have requested a copy of the EOI document.

Should a service provider contact any person other than the Contact Person nominated above (including but not limited to: any parents and School Council member or office bearer, employee, school employee, departmental officer or an employee of the current provider) in regards to this EOI, it may be disqualified from the EOI process and may be ineligible for consideration.

5. Late EOI

If an EOI is lodged after the Closing Time, it may be disqualified from the EOI process and may be ineligible for consideration unless:

- The service provider can clearly document to the satisfaction of the School that an event of exceptional circumstances caused the EOI to be lodged after the Closing Time; and
- The School is satisfied that accepting a late submission would not compromise the integrity of the process.

The determination of the School as to the actual time that the service provider's response is lodged is final. All EOIs lodged after the Closing Time will be recorded by the School. The School will inform service providers whose EOI was lodged after the Closing Time of their ineligibility for consideration.

6. Incomplete EOIs

If an EOI does not include all the information in the format required by the EOI or is incomplete in any way as determined by the School in its sole discretion, it may be rejected.

7. Validity of EOIs

An EOI will be valid for acceptance by the School for a period of 90 business days from the Closing Time. This period may be extended by mutual agreement between the parties.

8. Unauthorised Communication and Improper Assistance

Service providers are required to direct all communications through the Contact Person, unless advised otherwise by the Contact Person or the School. Unauthorised communication and/or seeking to obtain assistance of employees, agents or contractors of the School in preparation of their proposal may, in the absolute discretion of the School, lead to disqualification of an EOI submission.

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9. Reservation

The School reserves the right to, in its absolute discretion, refuse to consider or accept any EOI or all EOIs. The School will not necessarily accept the lowest priced EOI nor any other EOI. The School further reserves the right to:

- a) Reject all EOIs without giving reason for the rejection; and
- b) Accept a portion or the whole of any EOI at the price or prices quoted unless the EOI states specifically to the contrary.
- c) Negotiate with one or more service providers and allow any service provider to vary its EOI.

10. Preferred service provider

Selection as a preferred service provider does not give rise to a contract (express or implied) between the preferred supplier and the School Council for the supply of Services. No legal relationship will exist between the School and the preferred supplier until such time as a binding agreement is executed by both parties.

11. Conflict of Interest

When submitting its submission, the service provider must declare any actual or potential conflicts of interest which may arise between the service provider and the School or the School and any subcontractor which the service provider proposes to engage in respect of the supply of Services.

EOI DETAILS

➤ **Background**

Mernda Park Primary School is in the North Western Region of the Department of Education which services a medium residential area in the City of Whittlesea. The school has a current enrolment of 394 students Prep to Grade 6. It is expected that enrolment will increase to a maximum of 420 students over the ensuing years.

Physical features of the school include 4 Learning Communities. There is a gymnasium, Performing Arts area, STEAM area and, outside basketball courts and oval.

The student population, assumed to be represented by a wide range of socio-economic backgrounds, is likely to be characterised by a reasonable percentage of families with both parents working and high socio-economic status.

The canteen service is required to cater for a significant proportion of approximately 394 students and 35 staff members during both Victorian term periods with the exception of public holidays and pupil free days.

Site visit: The Business Manager of Mernda Park Primary School offers prospective providers an opportunity to view the school canteen facilities up until the 27th May 2024. Service providers are required to advise the Contact Person of their intention to attend by close of business three days prior to the requested visit. No more than two (2) attendees from the same service provider may attend the same site visit. All attendees must sign the attendance record which will be provided at each site visit.

A current canteen service exists at the school which has been the arrangement for several years.

Facilities available for use by the successful service provider to deliver the services required include a commercial grade kitchen including a large Chest freezer, oven, display fridge, microwave oven, pie warmer, storage shelf, cash register and a large lockable pantry.



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The School wishes to advise that currently the following practices occur that may impact on the numbers attending the service:

- Provide canteen services for school days only, as governed by DET term dates
- Provide a menu that is both affordable and compliant with DET guidelines (including Anaphylaxis, Allergy and COVID-19)
- Provide an extensive range of foods which are suitable for our demographic
- Students have the opportunity to place lunch orders, with an online ordering facility available to parents
- An opportunity to provide catering options for staff curriculum days and Parent Teacher Interview evenings
- All students are able to line up at lunch breaks to purchase snacks and drinks
- School Council is open to the service being provided on all days or selected days as we continue to grow
- The School may operate fundraising events that may impact the canteen on no more than 5 days per year.

➤ **Scope**

Length of Service:

To provide a canteen service to the school community for a 3 year contract with an option for a 1 year extension.

Required Operating Hours:

School days with the exception of pupil free days and the last week of the school year. The canteen is currently operating 3 days per week.

The provider will be allowed access to the space between 8.45am and 3.00pm to provide opportunity to set up and pack up the canteen and provide the canteen service.

School Council statement:

The School Council wants the service provider to provide an affordable and healthy canteen service to the school community.

The School Council believe that all employees that work in the canteen service should be facilitators of positive development who provide a safe, engaging environment and nurture healthy interactions.

The School will license the following facilities:

- Toilets (M/F) for both staff and students.
- Kitchen (canteen)

Required regulatory compliance:

It is the responsibility of the selected service provider to comply with the *National Law and National Regulations* at all times. Any updates or changes to the facilities to meet these requirements will be the cost/ responsibility of the service provider.

Child Safe Standards:

As of 2016, all early childhood services (including canteen Service Providers) and schools are required to comply with Child Safe Standards; they include seven standards designed to ensure organisations that work with children take steps to create a culture of child safety and protect children from all forms of abuse. The standards are as follows:

- Strategies to embed an organisational culture of child safety
- A child safe [statement of commitment](#) to child safety

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- A child [safety code of conduct](#)
- Screening, supervision, training and other human resources practices that reduce the risk of child abuse
- [Child Safety responding to and reporting procedure](#) of suspected child abuse
- Strategies to identify and reduce or remove risks of child abuse
- Strategies to promote child participation and empowerment
- All staff employed by the Canteen Licensee to meet Mandatory Reporting obligations
- All staff employed by the Canteen Licensee to meet Anaphylaxis training obligations
- All staff employed by the Canteen licensee are to complete the Child Safe Training supplied by the school.

Capability of provider:

A person's capability to operate as a canteen service provider is of critical importance. Updates in the national law as of 2017 have been identified to address this through specifying:

- Either the approved provider, a nominated supervisor, or a person in day to day charge must be present when a service is operating
- Services will be able to have more than one nominated supervisor
- The approved provider will be responsible for ensuring the person they appoint as a nominated supervisor must be fit and proper and have suitable skills to supervise the service
- A nominated supervisor will need to consent in writing to appointment to the role
- Each nominated supervisor and person in day-to-day charge will have to undertake child protection training

The service provider must advise as part of the EOI submission how they have implemented, operate and comply with the Child Safe Standards.

Food and drink:

The successful service provider will be required to provide food and drink to students as a part of the canteen service. Equipment available for the provision of food and drinks include a commercial grade kitchen which has large Chest freezer, oven, display fridge, microwave oven, pie warmer, storage shelf, cash register and a large lockable pantry.

Any food and drink supplied must be nutritious, in adequate quantity and take into account the child's growth and developmental needs and cultural, religious and health requirements. An accurate weekly menu must also be displayed.

Cleaning

The service provider will be responsible for cleaning all aspects of the kitchen area, storerooms and microwaves.

Maintenance / Repairs:

Any maintenance or repairs required, beyond reasonable wear and tear, must be prepared by the service provider. If these are not rectified in a timely way, the School Council may do so, and any costs will be invoiced direct to the service provider.

Transition / Implementation Plan:

The successful service provider is required to provide a transition plan, which includes but is not limited to an outline of the hand over process, appropriate handling of children details and data (if necessary), removal of the outgoing service provider's equipment and cleaning/maintenance requirements.

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Referees:

Service providers are required to nominate three (3) customers (preferably schools) to whom they currently provide similar services. The School reserves the right to also contact known customers of the service provider to seek customer feedback. Feedback will be sought in respect of, but not limited to, the service provider's performance, charges, responsiveness and complaint resolution.

➤ **Important Dates**

- EOI Closing date: 16th May 2024 @ 4.00pm.
- EOI proposals shortlisted by: All proposals considered
- Decision made regarding preferred service provider: 5th June 2024
- Preferred service provider informed of decision: 7th June 2024
- Commencement of service to the School: 7th October 2024 (First day of school term 4)

➤ **Reporting and meeting requirements**

The service provider's representative is required to meet, where requested, with a nominated representative, School Council or subcommittee once per quarter to review aspects of the canteen service.

The service provider will be required to report to a nominated representative, School Council or subcommittee as follows:

Quarterly on the following items:

- Any breaches or non-compliance with Health and Food Safety requirements
- Menu changes – items and costs
- Staffing
- Policy changes
- Incidents
- All complaints received, and action taken to resolve complaints and timeframe for resolution

Within 30 days of commencing, and then on an annual basis a copy of the following:

- Current Suitability Notices for all specified employees
- Copies of any new or renewed Insurances

An ad hoc basis, which would be required to be responded to within ten (10) business days:

- All complaints received and any action taken to resolve these complaints and the timeframes for resolution
- Child, parent and staff feedback

Report the following within two business days:

- Incidents, injuries or issues that have impacted in the health, safety or wellbeing of any child
- Occupational health and safety matters
- Any Formal Compliance Directive issued to the Licensee by the Regulatory Authority in connection with the canteen service
- Where the service provider has been charged with a criminal or regulatory matter, found guilty by court, cautioned, or otherwise pursued by either the Police, Local Authority or other regulatory body or subject to enforcement activity.

A report prior to the commencement of any new specified personnel detailing name, contact details and a copy of the Working with Children Check.

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Upon occurrence immediately report:

- Damage to or an accident in the licensed area
- Any notice or report received in relation to the licensed area and provide a copy of the report.

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

KPI	Performance Target
User Satisfaction	85% of children users to respond either at or above expected satisfaction levels based on a satisfaction survey, if requested by School Council.
Customer Service	85% of adult users to respond either at or above expected satisfaction levels. This would be based on a survey devised in consultation with the School Council.
Reporting	100% of reports to School Council are delivered within the nominated timeframes.

Submissions must address the service provider's provision of quality management systems and key KPIs used to track the performance of the contract.

➤ **License Fees & Amounts Payable**

To be negotiated with the successful provider. Providers can include licence fee proposals within their submission. License fees will be reviewed annually, prior to the anniversary of the contract.

Insurance

Minimum insurances the service provider are required to hold include:

a) Public Liability Insurance

Public liability insurance: \$AUD 20 million in respect of any one occurrence and for an unlimited number of claims.

b) Property Insurance

Insurance cover for the reinstatement or replacement value of the Licenced Area against the destruction of or damage to the Licenced Area and any apparatus or equipment belonging to or used by the service provider which is housed, stored, kept, or used in or at the Licenced Area.

c) WorkCover Insurance

Insurance in accordance with the requirements of the *Accident Compensation Act 1985 (Vic)* and the *Accident Compensation (Work Cover Insurance) Act 1993 (Vic)* which provide the Associates of the service provider (including equivalent cover for volunteers) with cover against personal injury or sickness arising from provided goods or services or working in or on the Licenced Area.

➤ **Selection Criteria**

The selection criteria for rating responses received from service providers are as follows:

1. Quality:

- Demonstrated experience as an approved provider of canteen service(s). This may include evidence of overall assessment at an existing school.
- Demonstrated ability to plan, deliver and monitor a canteen service which reflects the values of a school community.
- Commitment to the appointment and retention of suitably qualified staff and their ongoing professional development.
- Demonstrated knowledge and understanding of the process to develop a Quality Improvement Plan and ensure continuous improvement.

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2. Value for money:

- A proposed itemised cost structure that offers value for money for families and encourages students to buy healthy and nutritious food.
- A transparent process for increasing the costs of any product sold.

3. Financial viability:

- The provider must be financially viable and have the capacity to apply sufficient financial and other resources to a new service.

4. Policies and processes:

- Demonstrated experience in engaging families in the policies and provision of a canteen service.
- Demonstrated commitment to enacting policies and processes that reflect the needs and values of a school community.
- Demonstrated understanding of compliance and regulatory requirements in operating a canteen service and commitment to Child Safe Standards.

5. Information sharing:

- Commitment to information sharing.

The above selection criteria are not presented in any particular order or ranking.

➤ Contract Documentation

The successful service provider will be required to enter into an agreement with the School Council under the terms and conditions, as attached to this EOI.

Special conditions may be included subject to the agreement of the School Council.

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FORM 1 – COMPANY DETAILS

Attached is the Expression of Interest of:

Business / Corporation / Person: (Businesses list all proprietors)	
Postal Address:	
Street / Physical Address:	
Australian Business Number (ABN):	ABN: OR • Will you be applying for an ABN? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> (mark appropriate box)
Is it proposed to sub-contract any part of the Goods and/or Services? If "YES", specify full name and address of each sub-contractor and their relevant experience and expertise in relation to the offered Goods and/or Services	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> (mark appropriate box)
Size	Small <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> Large <input type="checkbox"/> Not for profit <input type="checkbox"/> (mark appropriate box) <i>Note: Small to Medium Enterprises (SMEs) are defined as firms with less than 200 full time equivalent employees. Under 20 full time equivalent employees is defined as Small, 20-199 full time equivalent employees is defined as Medium and 200 plus full time equivalent employees is defined as Large.</i>
Supplier Diversity Status	Indigenous Business <input type="checkbox"/> Disability Enterprise <input type="checkbox"/> Social Enterprise <input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ (mark appropriate box) <i>Note: Please include copies of relevant documentation to support your Supplier Diversity Status</i>
Contact Name, Phone and Fax No:	
Contact email address:	
Authorised Signature(s):	
Name(s):	
Date:	

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FORM 2 – SPECIFICATION STATEMENT

Please provide a written statement including:

- How you are best placed to meet the scope
- Details of your knowledge and previous experience in delivery of a canteen service.
- Details of your knowledge, resources and systems that will enhance the delivery of a canteen service.
- Any value added services, such as innovation, range of menu, catering options.



FORM 3 – OFFER REQUIREMENTS

1. Does your organisation understand and agree to provide the canteen services during the hours of operation outlined below:

Yes No

Period	Start Time	Finish Time
All school days or as agreed with the school	8.45am	3pm

Hours of operation cannot be varied without agreement in writing from a nominated representative and relevant regulatory approvals.

(if alternative hours are proposed, please attach details)

Response:

2. Does your organisation understand and agree that the proposed Commencement Date for the canteen service is Monday October 7th?

NOTE: This date is proposed only and the exact commencement date will be agreed to by the school and any successful service provider and may depend on regulatory approvals.

Yes No

3. Has your organisation made full disclosure of all fees and charges in the Form 6 - Pricing Schedule?

Yes No

If No Response:

5. Does your organisation currently have the financial capacity to deliver the service?

Yes No

Please provide details of your organisation's financial capability, such as a credit check, or steps that will be taken to improve the financial capability:



FORM 4 – HIGH QUALITY CANTEEN SERVICE

1a Please provide information on the menu that you are to offer.

1b. canteen service providers are to provide a sample of a routine five (5) day menu for one calendar week (Monday to Friday) for both recess and lunch time.

1c. Service providers are also to address their approach to the following:

- Staffing the canteen
- Review/ customisation of the menu
- Approach to inclusion of all children with special dietary requirements

Response:

Has your organisation attached the sample menu with all items and costs to consumer?

Yes No

1. Please identify how your organisation has implemented and compiles with the Child Safe Standards?

Response:

2. Canteen service providers are required to provide details of how they will continue to strive for an improvement in services. Provide a sample Quality Improvement Plan (Maximum 5 pages)

Response:

3. Provide details of all services associated with canteen service

Response:

Number of Services currently operated in Victoria

Number of Services that have been assessed while you were the approved canteen service provider.



FORM 5 – QUALITY PERSONNEL AND PROCESS

1. Provide details of how you will recruit the staff required for the service and timeframe involved?

Response:

Add cross-referenced attachment if required.

2. Provide details of your proposed team information for the delivery of the canteen service for this Site. This information should include:

- Detail titles, roles, responsibilities, qualifications and experiences for each title listed.
- Identify the names of the personnel you plan to put forward and relevant qualifications (if applicable).
- Identify which roles you plan to recruit staff for.
- Outline how you intend to meet the capability requirements as outlined in the scope.

Response:

2b. Please indicate if you will provide, two weeks prior to commencement of services if selected, the names, qualifications, and a photocopy of the Working with Children Check or the receipt of application and contact details for all specified personnel.

Yes No

3. Please advise whether the nominated facilities identified in the scope provide sufficient space for you to operate a service with the estimated numbers provided.

Response:



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FORM 6 – MENU PRICING SCHEDULE

Please provide each menu item and proposed cost to consumer for each item. Please also include information on the process for setting and revising all menu items. All amounts quoted are to be exclusive of GST. The current itemised PHSC menu is attached to this document.

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FORM 7 – CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION

I / We, _____ (the approved provider), make the following declaration of any actual or perceived conflict of interest, including but not limited to any pecuniary or other interests in Mernda Park Primary School or any relationships our staff and office bearers have with Mernda Park Primary School management, staff and/or School Council members.

Name (print) _____

Signed: _____

Date: _____



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FORM 8 - REFEREES

1. Where possible, provide details of up to three (3) customers (preferably schools) to which your organisation has/is provided/providing a similar Service. NOTE: These schools MAY be contacted to verify past/present performances.

ORGANISATION	CONTACT PERSON	CONTACT NUMBER	EMAIL ADDRESS