

Award-winning CATER^{ed} march on

12 October 2018

Plymouth's school meal provider [CATER^{ed}](#) has been presented with the All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) 2018 Excellence in School Food Award.

The Award was presented to CATER^{ed} at the [EDUcatering Excellence Awards](#) at London's Royal Garden Hotel by Sharon Hodgson MP, Chair of the All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on School Food on Tuesday 9 October.

This was the first time the APPG on School Food has presented an award and it is hoped that next year more schools, caterers, charities and individuals will apply.

The application process, which was facilitated by [APSE](#), required applicants to provide an executive summary of their project, background, and what has been achieved over the last 12 months. Applicants were then asked to have their application supported by a Member of Parliament, through a letter of support.

A total of 17 applications were received, all supported by MPs across the political spectrum, and a shortlist of 3 was established by the judges: Sharon Hodgson MP, Roberta Blackman-Woods MP and Gillian Keegan MP.

The finalists were: [Peel Brow School](#), [School Food Matters](#) and CATER^{ed}.

After presenting the award Sharon said: "Everyone who applied for this award is doing amazing work for school food, and I cannot thank all of them enough for all that they do each and every day to ensure that our children have access to a healthy meal.

"I am so pleased that my parliamentary colleagues were also able to get involved in the awards by offering a supportive letter to applicants, I am sure that they will have also learned a lot from doing so and I have encouraged them to go and visit the school or charity they have supported so that they can experience the fantastic work they do for themselves.

"It was a genuine pleasure to present CATER^{ed} with the first APPG Excellence in School Food Award, they were very deserving winners and I hope that they continue to keep up the good work in Plymouth, and also set an example for other cities around the UK."

Brad Pearce of CATER^{ed} said: "Thank you to Sharon and the judges for the recognition.

"It was an honour to win the inaugural APPG Excellence in School Food Award.

"At CATER^{ed} we work collaboratively to improve the overall school dining experience for Plymouth's children by delivering improved service quality, reduced costs, increased efficiencies and economies of scale giving a stronger financial base.

"The Big supporting The Small is our guiding principle to ensure that children and young people across the city can access great tasting, locally sourced, seasonal and freshly prepared hot school food. With our schools as shareholders CATER^{ed} believe in Feeding Ambitions, Making a Difference and supporting Every Child, Every Time"

The winning didn't stop there as at the EDUcatering Awards CATER^{ed} they picked up the School Food Plan Award 2018, in recognition for their commitment and they rounded up the week by winning the prestigious Foodservice CATEY for Education Caterer of the Year 2018 from The Caterer Magazine.



CATER^{ed} is 49 per cent owned by schools and 51 per cent by the City Council. Councillor Jon Taylor the Cabinet Member responsible for Education said: "I'm incredibly proud of CATERed and everything they have achieved over the last three years. Receiving this award highlights that Plymouth really is leading the way when it comes to school meal provision."

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