

FOOD PROCUREMENT MADE EASY

#### **CASE STUDY**

# St Lawrence College and Procure Partnership



December 2024

Founded in 1879, St Lawrence College is a co-educational independent school in Kent, serving approximately 625 pupils aged 3 to 18, including 185 boarders. In September 2024, with Procure's support the College transitioned to self-managed catering following a period of dissatisfaction and a consistent budget overspend with the previous outsourced contractor.

## **Objectives**

- 1. Reduce and streamline catering costs.
- 2. Improve overall pupil and guest satisfaction with catering services.
- 3. Enhance operational efficiency whilst retaining quality.



### **Actions implemented**

- Supply Chain Optimisation: Established new supplier partnerships with negotiated contracts and consolidated invoicing.
- Operational Improvements: Implemented PurchaseFlow (MIS) for streamlined procurement and budget management.



https://www.purchaseflow.co.uk/

- Introduced a bespoke PLOF. (Product List Order Form)
- Equipment Upgrades: Initiated a phased 5-year equipment replacement plan.
- Staffing Enhancements:
  Recruitment of a new
  Executive Chef and
  provided team
  development support to
  improve kitchen dynamics.
- Workflow and energy efficiencies: Adjusted kitchen dynamics and workflows to make beneficial improvements.



#### **Achievements**

- Budget Efficiency: Achieved betterthan-expected budget performance through cost-saving initiatives and improved purchasing practices; Circa 15%
- Service Quality: Enhanced client satisfaction with menu improvements and streamlined service delivery.
- Operational Gains: Strengthened kitchen workflows and supplier management, resulting in significant cost savings whilst improving quality
- Positive Team Dynamics: Increased staff engagement and morale through leadership support, training and process improvements leading to better retention.





#### **Ongoing and future focus**

- Continuous Improvement: Ongoing monitoring of KPIs to maintain service quality and budget with an injection of innovations.
- Long-Term Strategy: Continued collaboration with the catering team and strategic equipment upgrades to sustain progress and move with market trends.

#### Conclusion

Procure's partnership with St Lawrence College has led to meaningful improvements in budget control, service quality, and operational efficiency. With continued support, the College is well-positioned for sustained success and ongoing development whilst enjoying savings.

