



## **SUBJECT:** Part 4: The Myth Busting Fight Continues

**RECIPIENTS:** All Council Services (including schools)

**ISSUE DATE:** Jan 14      **REF:** HSB21.4

### **Is that a rumble in my tummy!**

In the latest edition to our H&S myth busting series we look at a recent case that was taken to the HSE myth busting panel where a misunderstanding of health & safety law had prevented a child getting their lunch!



**The Issue** - School unable to heat up pupil's home prepared lunch

Enquirer has been told by their disabled son's school that they are unable to heat up his lunch because of the risk of food poisoning. The school cite "Health & Safety" but are unable to tell them which rule they are referring to. Enquirer wish to send in home prepared meals specially blended to be fed to him orally.

#### **The Panel's Decision**

This is a straightforward food safety issue and clear, simple, advice on precautions for [reheating](#) food is readily available from the Food Standards Agency. There is no health and safety law that prevents a school heating food that a parent has provided for a child with special needs and the Food Standards Agency website [www.food.gov.uk](http://www.food.gov.uk) provides clear and simple guidelines on how to reheat food which anyone can follow

**If you require further assistance or clarification on the subject please contact:**

**Your Mouchel Health & Safety Adviser (see George section: Corporate > Information for Working > Risk Management > H&S Advisers)**