



Animal Welfare Beliefs Statement

More than ever, guests are seeking out distinctive and craveable food made with high-quality ingredients. In menu offerings with meat, eggs, or seafood, we aim to work with reputable suppliers who share our commitment to humane animal care and responsible sourcing practices.

We take animal welfare and health seriously at Panera. We believe this involves balancing humane care for animals with the long-term viability of farmers, ranchers, fisherfolk, suppliers, and our business, while supporting the integrity of the broader food system.

While this work is ongoing and complex, we remain committed to making continual progress where we can and to continued transparency. We engage with suppliers and industry organizations—and with farmers, fisheries, advocacy groups, and scientists as well—and these diverse perspectives inform our efforts in these areas.

Through our supplier standards and across our supply chain, we support industry efforts to reduce close confinement of animals and reduce the routine use of antibiotics by limiting their use to circumstances where it is deemed necessary for animal health.

We seek to source seafood from suppliers and fisheries with credible animal welfare and sustainability certification programs, or with equivalent or similar documented practices. We encourage progress in farmed and wild seafood by engaging with suppliers and encouraging their participation in recognized fishery improvement programs.

We also seek to work with suppliers whose practices align with the UK Farm Animal Welfare Committee's Five Freedoms first articulated over 50 years ago. Those Five Freedoms are:

1. **Freedom from hunger or thirst** through ready access to fresh water and a diet to maintain full health and vigor.
2. **Freedom from discomfort** by providing an appropriate environment, including shelter and a comfortable resting area.
3. **Freedom from pain, injury or disease** through prevention or rapid diagnosis and treatment
4. **Freedom to express normal behavior** by providing sufficient space, proper facilities, and company of the animal's own kind.
5. **Freedom from fear and distress** by ensuring conditions and treatment that avoid mental suffering.



More information about the UK Farm Animal Welfare Committee's Five Freedoms can be found [here](#). Additionally, consumers interested in learning more about our efforts may view our publicly reported information [here](#).

We also recognize growing demand for plant-based options, and we continue to offer plant-forward menu items to provide guests with more ways to enjoy food that aligns with their preferences.

We review and update this Beliefs Statement periodically to reflect evolving consumer expectations, supplier practices, and marketplace considerations. We also collaborate with our suppliers to review and update our supplier expectations associated with this Statement, as well as our Supplier Code of Conduct, as needed.