Roasted Pumpkin Soup

Ingredients:

- 1kg pumpkin, chopped into pieces
- 3 carrots, peeled and chopped
- 1 onion, peeled and chopped
- 1 stick celery, chopped
- 2 cloves garlic
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 sprig rosemary
- 1 teaspoon smoked paprika
- 750ml vegetable stock
- 1 tablespoon tomato paste
- 4 tablespoons cream

Method:

- **1.** Preheat the oven to 200°C.
- **2.** Cut the pumpkin into quarters, remove and discard the seeds and slice off the skin. Cut into chunks and place in a roasting tin.
- **3.** Peel and slice the carrots and onion, finely slice the celery, and add to them to the tin, along with the garlic cloves, (whole, still in their skins).
- **4.** Add the oil, rosemary and smoked paprika, season well with salt and black pepper, then toss everything together until the vegetables are fully coated in oil.
- 5. Roast for 30 minutes or until the pumpkin and carrots are just soft. Remove from the oven.
- 6. Find the garlic cloves, cut off their ends and squeeze the soft flesh back into the roasting tin, discarding the skins. Discard the rosemary stalk.
- 7. Tip the contents of the roasting tin into a blender or food processor, (or a saucepan with a hand blender). Add the stock, tomato paste and cream, and blitz until completely smooth.
- 8. Taste and adjust seasoning as required. Serve immediately.

