

Hazelwood Integrated Primary School

Food Policy

1. Responsibilities:

At Hazelwood the Governors and staff recognise the important connection between a healthy diet and a student's ability to learn effectively and achieve high standards in school. Our cook is charged with the responsibility of achieving current nutritional standards for school meals as set by The Education (Nutritional Standards for School Lunches) (England) Regulations introduced in April 2001. Everyone recognises that sharing food is a fundamental experience for all people; a primary way to nurture and celebrate our cultural diversity; and an excellent bridge for building friendships and inter-generational bonds.

The staff also recognises the role a school can play, as part of the larger community, to promote family health, and sustainable food and farming practices.

2. Mission statement:

It is our intention to improve the health of the entire community by teaching children and families ways to establish and maintain life-long healthy and environmentally sustainable eating habits. The mission shall be accomplished through food education and skills (such as cooking and growing food), the food served in schools and core academic content in the classroom.

3. Aim and Objectives:

To ensure that all aspects of food and drink in school promote the health and wellbeing of the pupils, staff and visitors to our school.

3.1 To improve the health of pupils, staff and their families by helping to influence their eating habits through increasing their knowledge and awareness of food issues, including what constitutes a healthy and environmentally sustainable diet and hygienic food preparation and storage methods.

3.2 To increase pupils' knowledge of food production, manufacturing, distribution and marketing practices and their impact on both health and the environment.

3.3 To ensure pupils are well nourished at school and that every pupil has access to safe, tasty and nutritious food and a safe easily available water supply during the school day. Healthy lunchboxes and school meals are a vital part of this programme.

3.4 To ensure that food provision in the school reflects the ethical and medical requirements of staff and pupils e.g. religious, ethnic, vegetarian, medical and allergenic needs.

3.5 To make the provision and consumption of food an enjoyable and safe experience.