

Priory Rise Food Policy

Priory Rise School is fully committed to safeguarding all children and, along with many other school policies, our Food Policy contributes to the safeguarding of children at Priory Rise.

Aims

To ensure that all aspects of food and nutrition in school promote the health and well-being of children, staff and visitors to our school.

Objectives

To meet our core aim, we have the following key objectives:

- To ensure all children have access to a healthy snack during morning play.
- To ensure that water is readily available throughout the day.
- To continue to raise awareness of healthy eating throughout the whole school community, in particular to pay attention to children's lunch boxes.
- To ensure that any members of staff with responsibility for food have basic food hygiene training.
- To ensure all children have access to a healthy cooked meal at lunch time.

Meeting our Objectives

These are the key actions we will take in order to meet our core aim and objectives.

- All Foundation and KS1 children will be provided with a fruit snack at morning break. KS2 children will be encouraged to bring a healthy fruit or vegetable snack.
- Children are strongly encouraged to bring their own water bottles which they can have access to throughout the day. All classrooms have drinking water taps and if children do not have a water bottle, beakers can be made available.
- Healthy eating is promoted through the curriculum in science and PSHE.
- School meals are provided by our in-house catering team and these meals fully meet the nutritional requirements of a healthy balanced meal. Healthy choices are promoted through the use of reward stickers.
- Training is provided for relevant support staff
- Parents are given guidance about healthy packed lunches and encouraged to ensure their child's lunch box does not include sweets, sugary drinks or chocolate. Parents are also asked include some kind of fruit or vegetable in their child's lunch box. The school provides appropriate storage trolleys for lunch boxes. Uneaten food is returned in the lunch box so that parents know what has been eaten.
- We have a 'no nuts' policy at the school and therefore children must not bring into school any form of nut products including peanut butter or snacks with nuts. We have a number of children with severe allergies to children and even a trace element of nut can provoke a severe reaction.

Meals Arrangements

We recognise the importance of lunch time organisation in the behaviour and well-being of our children and greatly value the promotion of social skills and healthy eating.

Teachers, support staff, catering staff and lunchtime supervisors work together to create a good dining room ambience and the development of appropriate table manners. All reception and Key Stage 1 children are encouraged to have school meals to support the development of social skills and to promote acceptance of a wide range of foods. Children in reception and KS1 receive a

complimentary cooked school meal which is provided under the government's universal free school meals scheme. When children join KS2 they are able to purchase a meal by ordering in advance – the meals represent excellent value for money and if parents order for 5 days in a week they receive a discount on the cost of the meals. The menu is published on the school web site so that parents can see the meals on offer each day. A two-course quality meal is served with a choice of a main meal, a vegetarian option or a jacket potato with a choice of fillings. In addition the dessert choices include a cooked dessert, yoghurt, fresh fruit salad or cheese and biscuits.

Our reception children have their lunch slightly earlier than the rest of the school to enable a higher ratio of staff supervision and an emphasis on social skills and healthy eating. We also operate a 'sitting' arrangement to enable all children in the school to have the opportunity to have sufficient time to eat and to be able to enjoy their lunch in either the main or the small hall.

Parental Involvement

- All new parents are given a copy of our Food Policy
- Information about school catering is provided at parents' evenings and in school newsletters e.g. menus, theme days.
- Parents and governors are invited into school to eat lunch with children and in the spring term we offer an opportunity for the parents of children in reception to have lunch with their child.
- Feedback from parents is invited in newsletters, via the Friends Association or governors. We also survey parents at least once a year to seek their views about the meals service.