



Title: All Saints' C of E (VC) Primary School Whole School Food Policy		
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Equality and Diversity Statement

All Saints' C of E (VC) Primary School, Maldon is committed to treating all members of the community with fairness and respect regardless of their ethnic background, gender, religion, disability, sexual orientation or their socio-economic background. This policy has been written to assist the school community and ensure that as far as is reasonable no child or adult shall be unfairly treated, discriminated against or disadvantaged as a result.



Our school recognises the importance of good nutrition on pupils' emotional and physical health and wellbeing and the effects this has on an individual child's ability to maximise their educational attainment.

Aims and Objectives

- To promote consistent messages throughout the whole school by ensuring all policies, procedures and daily working practice follow this policy.
- To make sure that nutrition has a prominent place in school life.
- To offer healthy food and drink choices at all appropriate opportunities.
- To ensure the food environment promotes a happy, pleasurable experience.
- To have clarity regarding the financing of school food and drink.

Food Policy and Curriculum Planning

Children are taught about food, healthy eating and the digestive system in Science. They are given opportunities to analyse foods, undertake cooking activities and consider the powers of advertising in Design Technology. In P.S.H.E. and P.E. they are encouraged to think about healthy lifestyle choices. Cross curricular learning aimed at promoting a Healthy lifestyle is planned for also during Healthy Living and Sports activities.

School Dinners

The school cooks its own hot meals with most ingredients sourced locally. Menus run on a three-week cycle. These menus are produced by our own kitchen staff with the support of the school meal services in accordance with current nutritional legislation and are reviewed regularly. In addition to the hot meal and vegetarian option, a further option is available for the children. This is either a jacket potato or a baguette with various fillings offered throughout the three-week menu cycle. Children are also able to help themselves to the salad bar which is available daily. Each day there is a dessert on the menu and yoghurt and fresh fruit are provided daily as another dessert option.

Due to Universal Free School Meals, all pupils in EYFS and KS1 are entitled to a free school lunch daily. Those children who are entitled to a Free School Meal may choose from the whole menu without exception. Special themed lunches are organised to celebrate festivals and other special events. Parent and children (via the school council) comments are considered with the development of each new menu.

Packed Lunches

Parents and pupils are consulted to encourage the use of healthy packed lunches. The school provides guidance for parents about packed lunches. Parents are requested not to provide their children with nuts, for snack or lunch due to children having serious nut allergies in school.



Snack

EYFS & KS1

Fresh fruit and vegetables are provided free of charge to EYFS and KS1 children in accordance with Government Policy. Children can bring in their own healthy snack from home if they would prefer.

KS2

KS2 children can bring in a healthy snack for break time. We encourage all pupils to eat a snack at playtimes but not chocolate, crisps, cakes, buns, pastries, and biscuits. Nuts are also not to be eaten at playtimes due to children having nut allergies in school. If a child does not have an appropriate snack then staff should support them by either finding something more appropriate in their lunch box or by providing them with one of the school snacks. Teachers can then mention this to parents at the end of the day. We believe that it is important for children to have a snack and no child should ever be stopped from eating one during break time. School staff encourage pupils to make healthy snack choices.

Allergies

Due to the very serious nature of the impact on some pupils in our school of nut allergies we do not allow nuts in school. Communications to parents clarify that this means that we want to eliminate any obvious nut based product. These could include:

- peanut butter
- nutella chocolate spread
- packets of loose nuts
- pesto
- cereal bars that very clearly contain nuts eg Fruit and Nut nature valley bar.

In our kitchen wherever possible we source ingredients where there is no trace of nuts in that product.

However some products contain disclaimers on their packaging which may read 'may contain traces of nuts' or 'we cannot guarantee that this product has not been produced in the same factory as products containing nuts'. We allow these products both in packed lunches and for a snack, certain products such as ice cream in our kitchen also have these disclaimers. We allow these products on the assumption that we have managed risk whilst also working within realistic working practices.

There are a number of other allergies in our school and all staff including the catering team, midday assistants, office staff and teaching and support staff are made aware of these through discussions and photos to support adults to identify pupils with allergies.

The very large majority of staff including key staff that come into contact with pupils on a regular basis have had relevant training including the use of epipens should a pupil have a serious allergic reaction.



Dining Environment

Mid-day assistants are available for support, encouragement and the promotion of good etiquette and hygiene. The lunchtime arrangements are regularly reviewed by the School Council, Mid-day Assistants and Senior Leadership Team. The dining hall provides a pleasant eating environment with food well presented. The indoor team of Mid-day assistants ensure tables are laid and ready for pupils to eat at, supported by pupil monitors who volunteer for lunchtime responsibilities. An outdoor team of Mid-day assistants ensure that during the remainder of lunchtime children have positive play experiences.

Water

The health benefits of drinking water are widely acknowledged and to promote water consumption, children are encouraged to bring in a named and filled water bottle to school each day throughout the year. A water cooler is available to staff in the staffroom.

Monitoring and Review

Governors monitor the implementation of the Whole School Food Policy on monitoring visits throughout the year and may take lunch as part of the process. The implementation of this policy is monitored by the Governing Body, Senior Midday assistants and the SLT, and reviewed by the staff and Governors.