



GREAT MISSENDEN C OF E COMBINED SCHOOL WHOLE SCHOOL FOOD POLICY

INTRODUCTION

This policy document was produced in consultation with the entire school community, including pupils, parents, school staff, governors, LEA representatives, community dietician, local healthy schools officer and the food for life partnership.

This document is freely available to the whole school community. A copy is available for interested parents from the school office, or can be downloaded from our website.

WHOLE SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY MISSION STATEMENT

This school recognises the important connection between healthy eating and a pupil's ability to learn effectively and achieve high standards in school. It also recognises the role the school can play, as part of the larger community, to promote family health, and sustainable food, including production and farming practices. We also recognise 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. We therefore seek to provide a high quality food education and food service and ensure consistency in food messages throughout the school day.

OUR AIMS

FOOD LEADERSHIP

Aim

To ensure senior managers and governors facilitate the role school plays, as part of the larger community, in promoting family health and sustainable food and farming practices.



Objectives

- To ensure the whole school and community are consulted on school food issues via a School Nutrition Action Group (SNAG)
- To work with the whole school and community to develop an agreed whole school food policy and action plan
- To ensure the whole school and community are kept informed of key changes in relation to food issues in school
- To build the confidence of parents in the school meal service and improve the take-up of school meals, including free school meals
- To support and promote the provision of healthy packed lunches and snacks
- To ensure key staff and teachers have the necessary skills to educate the whole school on food and nutrition topics; in particular that the teacher with responsibility for food has basic hygiene training

FOOD QUALITY AND PROVENANCE

Aim

To ensure pupils and staff receive nutritious, fresh, local and organic food at lunch and throughout the school day, and that this food is delicious, seasonal, affordable and safe.

Objectives

- To provide food of consistent nutritional quality throughout the school day, ensuring it meets the Governments nutrient-based standards
- To seek to achieve the Food for Life targets of 75% freshly prepared, 50% locally sourced and 30% organic ingredients, and to address issues of seasonality, animal welfare and sustainable fishing when sourcing products
- To ensure that catering staff are involved in the life of the school and given opportunities for continuous professional development
- To support and encourage pupils in drinking water frequently by providing easy access throughout the day to drinking water that this is separate from the toilet area.

FOOD EDUCATION

Aim

To provide a well-planned national curriculum course of study that incorporates messages about nutrition, food hygiene and sustainable and ethical food production, and which is complemented and reinforced by practical hands-on food education like cooking and growing projects and farm links.

Objectives

- To help pupils develop an understanding of the relationship between a healthy diet and physical activity for their short and long-term wellbeing and health
- To give pupils and the wider community the opportunity to acquire basic skills in planning, preparing and cooking healthy meals, and an understanding of basic food hygiene
- To provide pupils and members of the wider community with the opportunity to learn about the growing and farming of food and its impact on the environment
- To provide opportunities for pupils to eat and cook with vegetables that they have grown themselves



- To create opportunities for pupils to connect with local producers and food businesses, to help them become intelligent and responsible food consumers
- To regularly review the formal curriculum to ensure information relating to food and nutrition in different lesson areas is consistent and up to date
- To establish an annual food week in school to promote healthy eating and drinking messages

FOOD CULTURE AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Aim

To create an enjoyable and sociable dining experience for pupils in school, and a lively food culture within the school and its wider community.

Objectives

- To provide an enjoyable lunchtime experience and environment
- To ensure parents and guardians are involved with developing a healthy approach to packed lunches and snacks in school
- To ensure any collaboration or sponsorship with businesses further the Food for Life Partnership aims, and any endorsements of brands or products comply with the Government food standards
- To promote a good understanding of healthy and sustainable food in families and the wider community through the involvement of parents and community groups in growing and cooking projects and food events
- To share our learning experience on food issues with other schools and community groups
- To ensure that food offered to children on residential and day trips and as part of any special school event includes healthy options
- To encourage pupils to bring and share birthday and holiday treats that are not associated with food

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The curriculum co-ordinator will review and report on curricular content to the SNAG and senior management team. The Head Teacher will observe sample lessons.

Parents and pupils will be consulted with on an annual basis regarding food provision in school throughout the day – particularly school lunches.

This policy will be monitored via SNAG reports to the school council and Senior Management Team. It will be reviewed annually to include improvements and reflect changes in practice.

Signed:.....(Head Teacher)



Signed.....(Governor)

Dated:

Date for review:

