



Witchampton C of E First School

Healthy Eating Policy

Witchampton C of E First School is committed to upholding children's rights and promoting their responsibilities under the UN Convention for the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). The contents of this policy are fully in keeping with this commitment.

What are the aims of this policy?

- * To make explicit the values and guidelines that underpin every aspect of food culture in Witchampton C of E First School.
- * To ensure that our children receive consistent and coherent messages about food and its role in their long-term health and wellbeing.

What are the values that inform this policy?

- * We believe that every adult at Witchampton C of E First School can play a part in making sure that the children develop positive attitudes to food, make informed choices and enjoy eating healthily.
- * We want children to understand that good, nutritious food, in the form of a fully balanced diet, is essential to their ability to learn as well as to their long-term health.
- * We want children to apply their knowledge about food and make healthy choices both in and out of school.
- * We want the children to enjoy cooking and learn core skills by the time they leave the school.
- * We believe that food has an important role in developing young people's social skills.

1. Access to Water in School

- Children have access to free and fresh drinking water throughout the school day and are encouraged to have a drink of water during their mid-morning, lunchtime and afternoon breaks.
- Children are encouraged to bring their own water bottles into their classrooms and are allowed to drink water whenever they feel thirsty.
- Water is promoted as a healthy drink above all other possible drinks which may contain sugar and /or other additives.

2. Food throughout the school day:

Treats

- Children should not be consuming sweets, chocolates and fizzy or sugary drinks before or during the school day. Sweet Treats should NOT be brought into school by parents as presents.

Breakfast

- We recognise the importance of eating a balanced breakfast and realise that it is hard to concentrate on learning and maintain energy levels without breakfast.
- We have a breakfast club on site and this club follows our healthy eating policy with regard to breakfast.
- We promote the importance of breakfast as a key meal in the day.

Break Time

- Reception children and children in Key Stage One benefit from the National School Fruit Scheme. This entitles them to one free piece of fruit or vegetable a day which they have at morning play. Key Stage Two Children are encouraged to bring in a fruit or vegetable snack from home to eat during the mid-

morning break. Sweets and chocolate are not permitted.

- All children have a mid-morning break when they are encouraged to have a drink of fresh water. Squash and fizzy drinks are not allowed, on health and safety grounds. Glass bottles or pressurised containers are not permitted.

Lunch Time – packed lunches and hot school meals

- At Witchampton C of E First School, children either bring in their own packed lunches which are stored in the cloakrooms within each classroom, or they eat a hot school meal, supplied by our hot meal provider, currently Chartwells, a company whose provision meets all nutritional standards as laid down by the government. This contract is reviewed periodically, informed by feedback from parents and pupils.
- At lunchtime, children are supervised by Lunchtime Supervisory Assistants and teaching Assistants who also report back to the class teacher if there is a particular concern. Our Lunchtime supervisors are trained in basic food hygiene and safety.
- We make sure children have time to eat their lunch without the need to rush and encourage good manners at all times.
- We are always happy to support parents in making healthy choices when preparing packed lunches to ensure children receive a balanced and nutritious mid-day meal.

3. Nut-Free School

- In recognition that nut allergies are increasingly commonplace, Witchampton C of E First School is a completely nut free school. No nuts or nut derivatives are used in cooking ingredients or food technology activities. Lunchboxes should not contain any nut products or nut derivatives. Delivered in hot school meals should not contain any nut products or nut derivatives.

4. Food in the Curriculum

- We exploit opportunities within the existing curriculum to discuss and work with food and we recognise that food has great potential for cross-curricular work. Food education is delivered via the Design and Technology, Science and PSHE curriculum areas in particular.
- Food Technology / cooking activities are also included in the taught curriculum for years R to 4 inclusive.
- The school's Food Handling policy gives detailed guidance on safe food handling, storage and hygiene.

5. Schemes and events

- We try to participate in as many food-related events and schemes as possible in order to promote the aims of this policy.

6. Links to other policies

- This policy has links to our Science, Physical Activity, Design and Technology, and PSHE policies.

7. How is this policy monitored and evaluated?

- This is a working policy. The whole school community, including children, parents, school staff and academy committee members are able to contribute to its review.
- We will review this policy at least once every three years.

This policy has been reviewed in line with the 9 principles set out in the Single Equality Policy and an initial screening Equality Impact Assessment has been carried out.

Date of adoption: October 2021

Date of review: Autumn Term 2024