



## Colerne Church of England Primary School

### Food Policy

#### **1.0 Statement of Intent**

- 1.1 The school is dedicated to providing an environment that promotes healthy eating and enables pupils to make informed food choices. This will be achieved by the whole school approach to food provision and food education documented in this policy.
- 1.2 The Governing Body accepts that it has a responsibility to ensure that it provides an environment that promotes healthy eating.
- 1.3 From September 2014 every child in reception, year 1 and year 2 in state-funded schools is entitled to a free school lunch.

#### **2.0 Aims**

- 2.1 To provide a range of healthy food choices throughout the school day and in line with the mandatory School Food Standards.
- 2.2 To support pupils to make healthy food choices and be better prepared to learn and achieve.
- 2.3 To ensure a consistent approach to healthy eating across the school community including pupils, staff and parents/carers.

### **3.0 Role of the Governing Body**

- 3.1 The governing board is responsible for ensuring that the national school food standards are met.
- 3.2 All food and drink provided must meet the national school food standards. The caterer should provide the governing board with evidence of compliance with the standards. If the school provides food it should evaluate the food and drink provision against the standards, and produce evidence of compliance.
- 3.3 The governing board should ensure that it receives regular reports on compliance with the school food standards as well as take-up of school lunches and financial aspects of school food provision.
- 3.4 The governing boards are to work with the senior leadership team to develop a whole school food policy; setting out the school's approach to its provision of food, food education (including practical cooking), the role of the catering team as part of the wider school team and the school's strategy to increase the take-up of school lunches.
- 3.5 The governing board is responsible for ensuring that the national school food standards are met. How this is carried out will depend on the catering arrangements within the school.

### **4.0 Responsibilities of Governors**

- 4.1 Governors are responsible for the provision of school food. A school lunch must be provided for pupils where a meal is requested and either the pupil is eligible for free school lunches, or it would not be unreasonable for lunches to be provided.
- 4.2 The Governing Body can decide the form that school lunches take, but must ensure that the lunches and other food and drink provided meets the school food standards.
- 4.3 There is no requirement that lunches must be hot meals, but hot lunches should be provided wherever possible to ensure that all pupils are able to eat at least one hot meal every day.
- 4.4 Facilities for pupils who have packed lunches rather than the school meal must be provided free of charge. As a minimum these facilities should include accommodation, furniture and supervision so that pupils can eat food they have brought from home in a safe and social environment.
- 4.5 Milk must be provided free of charge to infant and benefits-based free school meals pupils when it is offered as part of their school meal and free to benefits-

based free school meals pupils at all other times. Charges can be made for all other pupils.

## **5.0 Curriculum**

5.1 Healthy eating will be addressed in areas of the curriculum, e.g. PSHE, DT, Science, Humanities. Through various topics, pupils will have the opportunity to cook and eat different foods and staff aim to promote healthy choices and multi-cultural options where possible

## **6.0 Dining Room Environment**

6.1 Generally, younger children eat on the first sitting and the older children eat on the second sitting. The children are aware that we have dining room rules to create a pleasant and sociable environment and these are on display in the hall. Good manners are encouraged at all times. Staff often join the children for lunch. In the summer term, children are permitted to eat their lunch on the picnic tables outside the dining hall.

## **7.0 School Lunches**

7.1 Provided Meals. School meals are the responsibility of the Catering Manager and served between 12.00midday and 1.00pm in the dining hall. The school meals meet the Department of Education's advice contained in School Food in England – July 2016. This is attached at Annex A to this policy. They also conform to The Requirements for School Food Regulations 2014. This is attached at Annex B to this policy. School meals are planned on a 4 week cycle and always contain a meat and vegetarian option. The school meals menu can be found on our school website.

7.2 Packed Lunches. The school's packed lunch policy is developed using guidance from the Children's Food Trust. The guidance aims to support pupils to have a balanced lunch and best prepare them for learning in the afternoon. Packed lunches should aim to include:

7.2.1 Some starchy foods such as bread (sliced bread, pitta bread, wraps, bagels), pasta, potatoes, couscous; choose wholegrain where possible.

7.2.2 1 portion of fruit and 1 portion of vegetables or salad.

7.2.3 Dairy food such as cheese or yoghurt.

7.2.4 Meat, fish, or another source of protein such as eggs, beans and pulses, hummus, falafel.

7.2.5 Oily fish once every 3 weeks e.g. sardines or salmon.

Packed lunches should not include:

7.2.6 Crisps or crisp type snacks e.g. flavoured rice cakes or cheddars.

7.2.7 Sweets.

7.2.8 Any items containing chocolate including bars, biscuits, cakes or yoghurts/desserts

7.3 Water. The school provides water for all pupils at lunchtime; therefore there is no need for packed lunches to include a drink.

7.4 Due to the current situation of COVID 19, all pupils must bring a bottle of water to school. Cups are provided for those who forget. No fountains are available nor are shared jugs of squash or water.

## **8.0 Special Dietary Requirements**

8.1 The school does everything possible to accommodate pupils' specialist dietary requirements including allergies, intolerances, religious or cultural practices. Individual care plans are created for pupils with food allergies and the catering manager and Dining Room supervisors are aware of the pupils involved.

## **9.0 Snacks**

9.1 Fruit and vegetables provided through the Government scheme will be available free for all pupils in KS1. Any snacks brought from home will be restricted to fruit or vegetables unless recommended by a doctor on medical grounds.

## **10.0 After School Clubs and Events**

10.1 Any food and drink provided at after school clubs and events will be in line with the Whole School Food Policy. Some exceptions will take place, e.g. school fairs, discos and parties where the well-being and fun element of the occasion will prevail. Similarly, occasionally both pupils and adults in school will have occasion for celebration and these may involve consuming 'treats'.

## **11.0 Monitoring, Evaluation and Review**

11.1 Monitoring, evaluation and review of this policy and its contents will be the responsibility of the Governing Body, whilst its workability will be the

responsibility of the Headteacher and the Catering Manager. All staff and Governors will be informed and kept up to date with any changes in policy, any new information, initiatives or procedures involved in food hygiene, health and safety and nutrition as the need arises throughout the year.

## **12.0 Guidance**

12.1 Guidance on food standards and school food provision is contained in School Food in England – July 2016 (Annex A to this policy), The Requirements for School Food Regulations (Annex B to this policy) and the School Food Plan website ([schoolfoodplan.com](http://schoolfoodplan.com)) all of which should be consulted in conjunction with this policy.

Annexes:

- A. School Food in England – July 2016
- B. The Requirements for School Food Regulations 2014

## Review History

Policy Issue	Date Policy Reviewed	Revisions Agreed	Date Revised Policy Agreed	Date of Next Review
1.0	November 2016	Policy issued and adopted.	January 2017	January 2018
1.1	January 2018	Policy Reviewed and Typographical amendments included	January 2018	January 2020
1.2	March 2021	Have added two points re provision of meals being KS1 only and water bottles having to be brought to school, both due to COVID19	March 2021	September 2021
1.3	September 2021	Removed point about meals only being available for KS1	November 2021	March 2023
1.4	September 2023	No changes made	September 23	September 25

Signed .....Chair of Governors

Signed .....Headteacher

Date .....