Nant-y-Parc Weekly Newsletter



Please see all attachments

Contact details: 02920 832116

20th October 2023

nantyparcprimary@sch.caerphilly.gov.uk

CHRISTMAS JUMPER EXCHANGE

This year, we have decided to hold a Christmas jumper exchange scheme where families can donate any Christmas jumpers/t-shirts/shirts that your children have outgrown. If these could be donated by **Wednesday 8th November**, we will launder them and have them available for parents to browse and take away on 13.11.23 free of charge. As a school we are trying our best to limit costs around the Christmas period and thought this would be a great way to re-use jumpers/t-shirts/shirts which no longer fit your child

CAERPHILLY CARES / PARENTS EVENING

On Wednesday 25th October, we will be opening our doors to the Caerphilly Cares service. Upon arrival, they will base themselves in the school hall and will be available for drop-in sessions between 2pm and 4pm to offer support with finances, isolation, loneliness, and/or food. As it is also Parents Evening on this day, we thought it would be worthwhile to merge these events so that you can speak with your child's teacher and get any support you may need from the right team or service. Please refer to page 2 for further information.

SPOOKY DISCO

On Wednesday 25th October, each class will hold a spooky class disco during the school day. For this event, the children are invited to wear a costume of choice, or non-school uniform. The children will be provided with a variety of snacks to enjoy, but we kindly ask for a contribution of £1.

Half term homework - See Pumpkin Project attached - pages 3 and 4

COFFEE MORNING

On Monday 13th November, Miss Nelson and Mr Tilley are hosting a coffee morning which parents are welcome to attend. The purpose of this event is for parents to ask questions they may have about school policies, practises, or general queries e.g., regarding attendance. We are more than happy to discuss any concerns and look forward to seeing you at our coffee morning.

BBC CHILDREN IN NEED

On Friday 17th November, we will be fundraising for BBC Children in Need and invite pupils to wear spots or Pudsey/Blush theme dothes/pyjamas to school on this day. Any donations would be greatly appreciated.

PARKING

REMINDER — We are still receiving many reports of adults parking in an unsafe manner at the bottom of the drive. Please be mindful that this is a crossing area for children and parking in an unsafe way prevents visibility for those crossing. We have reported parking to CCBC, and it is likely that parking wardens/community officers/police will be doing spot checks. Please consider that if you are asked to move your vehicle, this is ensuring the children's safety is maintained upon their arrival at school.

PLEASE REFER TO ATTACHMENTS FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.

Value of the month: Respect

A peek at the next few weeks..



Diary Dates

October	Black History Month
25.10.23	Spooky Disco (in class)
25.10.23	Parents Evening
10.111.23	Remembrance Day
13.11.23	Christmas Jumper Exchange
13.11.23	Coffee Moring with Miss Nelson & Mr Tilley
13.11.23 – 17.11.23	Anti-Bullying Week
17 11 23	BBC Children in Need

Term Dates

06.10.23 INSET (school closed to pupils) 30.10.23-03.11.23 Half Term 21.12.23 End of autumn term (1:15 pm finish)

ATTENDANCE

A friendly reminder that attendance continues to be high on our priority list this year and as a result will be closely monitored this term. Whilst we appreciate illness cannot be avoided, we would appreciate your support in ensuring your child attends school regularly so that they are accessing all aspects of the curriculum. If your child is going to be absent, please inform the school so that we can make a note of this on your child's record.

As I am sure you can appreciate, we are held accountable by CCBC and are challenged when attendance percentages are lower than what is deemed acceptable for pupils. In this instance, we have a duty to explain what we as a school have done to increase this. Therefore, if you are invited to attend an attendance meeting, we would appreciate your cooperation so that we can work with you to identify ways forward. Failure to communicate with school could result in involvement from the EWO or a fixed penalty notice being issued, both of which we want to avoid.

We also tackling lateness this term, please can you arrive at school by 9am each day so that your child is able to access Soft Start and reading activities. Thank you!

CAERPHILLY CARES

Providing residents needing support with a single gateway into the Council.

Need help with things such as financial support, isolation or loneliness, food? We will help you, please contact the team, we will support you to get the right team or service to help all your needs.



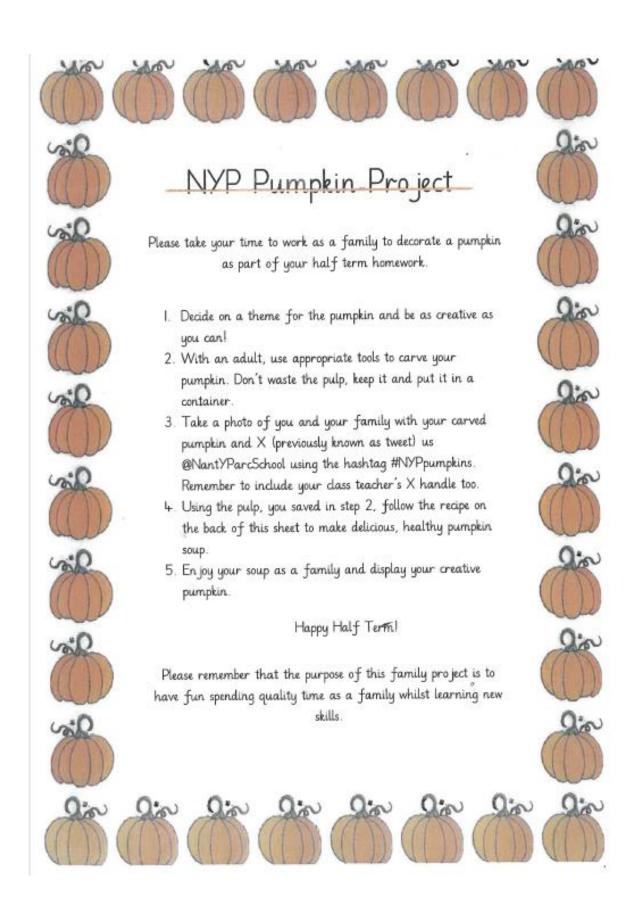
www.caerphilly.gov.uk/CaerphillyCares

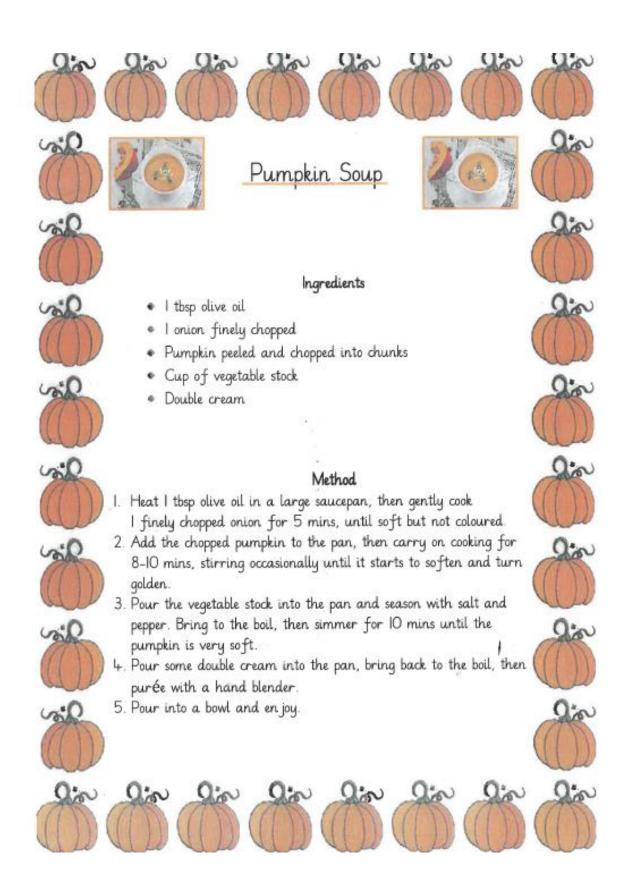
Tel: 01443 811490

Text: SUPPORT to 07537 414443

Email: caerphillycares@caerphilly.gov.uk









CAERPHILLY TABLE-TOP & GAMERS SOCIETY

Teach your child there is more to games than consoles and mobile devices! Learn strategy, maths (STEM) and socialise with other fellow gamers for real!

CTG is a free monthly gaming society that meets in the Caerphilly Library once a month 10-4pm.

CTG includes a STEMHOUR 11-12noon, where only games with Maths and Strategy themes will be played.

Free to all pupils and their families in the Caerphilly Borough. Be it table top board games, role-play games (RPG) and war gaming board games as well as card games like Pokémon and Yu-Gi-Oh - this is the place to be. Why not pop in and bring your games with you?

Teach fellow students your favourite games, Learn and join into different games- but don't worry if you don't have your own... we have many.

Hosted by Vik Yadh of Caerphilly Comic Con Contact us: ctgcaerphilly@yahoo.com Follow us: Twitter: @CCaerphilly

Facebook: @CTGCaerphilly

Tŷ Penallta, Parc Tredomen, Ystrad Mynach, Hengoed CF82 7PG

Penalita House, Tredomen Park, Ystrad Mynach, Hengoed CF82 7PG



Cyfarwyddwr Corfforaethol - Addysg a Gwasanaethau Corfforaethol Corporate Director - Education and Corporate Services

www.caerffili.gov.uk | www.caerphilly.gov.uk

Dear Parent/ Guardian,

Admission to Secondary School - September 2024

In September 2024, your child is due to transfer to Secondary School. To secure a place for your child, you will need to complete an application online.

Please visit the Caerphilly.gov website, search for School Admissions and click to 'Apply for a place at school'. The actual web address is as follows: www.caerphilly.gov.uk/schooladmissions

You **must** complete the form by the **27**th **October 2023**. Please note, you must include your council tax number on the form. You will find this number on your council tax statement in the top right-hand corner.

Your child's attendance at a feeder Primary/ Junior school does not provide automatic entry into your preferred Secondary school. It is your home address that will determine their catchment school. If your child resides at more than one address (i.e. if there are shared custody arrangements in place), then the address at which the child spends most of the school week should be used.

Please refer to the Starting School Booklet for all information relating to admission to school and other education services



If you should require any assistance with completing the form, or have any queries, please contact a member of the School Admissions Team on 01443 864870 or schooladmissions@caerphilly.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely, School Admissions Team

E Mail: schooladmissions@caerphilly.gov.uk



Admission to Secondary School September 2024

As your child enters Year 6 it is now time for you to apply for their place in secondary school

You must apply by 27th October 2023

You can apply by visiting www.caerphilly.gov.uk and searching for school admissions or by scanning the QR code below For help and support call the Admissions team on 01443 864870



'No Limits to Learning!' - 'Dim Ffiniau i Ddysgu!'

Nant y Parc Primary School

Commercial Street, Senghenydd, Caerphilly, CF83 4GY. Tel: (029) 20832116

E-Mail: nyppa@caerphilly.gov.uk
Head Teacher - Mrs. N. Davies

Dear Parent / Carer,

The vast majority of parents, carers and other visitors to our school are supportive of the school and act in a reasonable way. The school expects parents and other visitors to always behave in a reasonable way towards all members of the school community this includes other parents and carers.

Schools are private property. People do not have an automatic right to enter. Parents have an 'implied licence' to come on to school premises at certain times, for instance parent appointments, attending a school event and to drop off or pick up their children.

If a parent, carer or visitor displays aggressive, abusive or insulting behaviour/language that is a risk to others on school site, the police will be called and the person will be removed from our school site.

TYPES OF UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOUR

In order to support a peaceful and safe school environment the school cannot tolerate parents, carers and visitors exhibiting the following:

- Disruptive behaviour or disorderly conduct which interferes or threatens to interfere with the operation of a classroom,
 office or any other area of the school grounds.
- Using loud/or offensive language, shouting, swearing, using profane language, attempting to physically intimidate, use of
 aggressive hand gestures or displaying temper.
- Threatening to harm a member of school staff, visitor, fellow parent/carer or pupil regardless of whether or not the behaviour constitutes a criminal offence.
- Damaging or destroying school property.
- Sending abusive or threatening e-mails or text/voicemail/phone/social media messages or other written communications.
- Defamation of the school or staff character on Facebook or other social networking sites.
- The use of physical aggression towards another adult or child. This includes physical punishment against your own child on school premises.
- · Approaching someone else's child in order to discuss or chastise them because of their actions towards your own children.

All members of the school community have a right to expect that their school is a safe place.

If a person's behaviour is unreasonable, permission for them to be on the school premises may be withdrawn and if a parent is a threat to our school community eg other parents, pupils or staff then we will ring 999 and ask for police assistance to remove the adults causing the disturbance from the school site.

Kind regards Nicola Davies Headteacher



















Key changes for families to be aware of for September 2023

- New name School Essentials Grant replaces the PDG Access Grant
- There is no longer a requirement for families to submit a specific application for the grant. Families of eligible pupils will receive a Post Office letter, allowing the collection of a cash payment.
- The grant provides £125 (except for year 7 which is £200) for eligible pupils [Reception through to Year II] to buy school uniforms, equipment, sports kit, and kit for activities outside of school.

Eligibility of pupils remains unchanged, full details are available on the Council's Website.

https://www.caerphilly.gov.uk/services/schools-and-learning/travel,-grants-and-funding/school-essentials-grant?lang=en-GB

Are you supporting a child with ADHD and would like to join a peer support group?



- Peer Support For Adult Parent/Carers
- Run By Volunteers With Lived Experience
 - No Diagnosis Needed
 - ♥ Newport And Surrounding Area
 - Regular Face-To-Face Meetings
- Friendly, Supportive And Non-Judgemental
- Focus On ADHD Plus Other Neurodivergent Conditions Such As Autism.



Are you supporting a child with ADHD

and would like to join a peer support group?



Families Supporting Families

THIRD THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH 10AM-12.

We are a friendly, non-judgemental and supportive group, run by families for families.

We support families who have children with ADHD plus Autism and other Neurodiversities.

A diagnosis is not needed. You do not need to live in Newport to attend our sessions.

This group is for the adults of the family only and is a space where we can chat without the children present.

This group is held at the Serennu Childrens Centre in Rogerstone. Please text or call Natalie to book a space on 07977 455 592.



Are you supporting a child with ADHD

and would like to join a peer support group?





FOURTH MONDAY EVENING OF THE MONTH

17:30-19:30

We are a friendly, non-judgemental and supportive group, run by families for families.

We support families who have children with ADHD plus Autism and other Neurodiversities.

A diagnosis is not needed. You do not need to live in Newport to attend our sessions.

This group is for the adults of the family only and is a space where we can chat without the children present.

This group is held at the Serennu Childrens Centre in Rogerstone. Please text or call Natalie to book a space on 07977 455 592.



DADS GROUP GWENT

Is a support group for any Dad or Male Carer of a child/young person with a disability or developmental difficulty.

It is an opportunity to meet with other Dads in order to gain and provide mutual support based on personal experiences, knowledge and understanding;



2nd Saturday of every month

& Virtually on the 4th Saturday of every month

https://dadsgroupgwent.wixsite.com/website or email

dadsgroupgwent@gmail.com

Supported by



Family Liaison Service



- Do you have a child or young person diagnosed or undergoing an assessment for a disability or developmental difficulty?
- Do you live in Caerphilly County Borough?
- Do you want to know about local services and activities which you or your child/young person can access?
- Do you sometimes find it difficult knowing who to turn to for help, information or advice?

Our Family Liaison Officers are extremely passionate about promoting appropriate services and support that is available.

We act as a first point of contact for all families, to help with enquiries about services and leisure activities that children and young people can access.

We offer guidance and support to help families navigate the 'system', signpost to the correct professionals and provide support and resources.

We ensure that families are provided with access to appropriate services and to obtain feedback to inform service development.





To speak to Lisa, our
Family Liaison Officer based in Caerphilly
Children's Centre call 02920 867447 or email
Lisa.George2@wales.nhs.uk



*Term time only

Little Stars

Stay and play parent / carer sessions for children aged 0-4 years £6 per family

Would you like the opportunity to meet with other parents and young children in a safe, friendly and supportive environment?

If yes, then Sparkle's Little Stars sessions are for you and your family!

The Little Stars Caerphilly group is a great opportunity for parents / carers of children with a disability and / or a developmental difficulty, that reside in Caerphilly borough





FREE SCHOOL MEALS FOR ALL PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN Eligible Free School Meal (eFSM) Families who meet certain criteria. for

Universal Primary Free School Meals (UPFSM)

It is Welsh Government's aim that every child in primary school in Wales will be eligible for a universal primary free school meal (UPFSM) by 2024, regardless of household income. If your child is in full-time Nursery, Reception, Year 1 or Year 2, they are able eligible for free school meals NOW.

If your child is in Year 3, 4, 5 or 6 they will be eligible for free school meals in September 2023.

Families who meet certain criteria, for example those on lower incomes or in receipt of certain benefits, may be eligible to apply for eFSM. Families in receipt of eFSM are also eligible to receive the Pupil Development Grant to buy school uniforms and equipment, sports kit and equipment for activities outside school. If you think you might be eligible for eFSM please apply.

For more information about the eligibility criteria and the application process for eFSM please visit:

www.caerphilly.gov.uk/ Freeschoolmeals



For more information about the eligibility criteria and the application process for *eFSM* please visit www.caerphilly.gov.uk/free-school-meals or contact the Catering Team: 01443 864055 catering@caerphilly.gov.uk



Nant-y-Parc Uniform Station



We have a new storage unit containing uniform for families who may need it.

Please help yourself to whatever size you require for your child.

Can you donate?

Do you have any uniform that you no longer need?

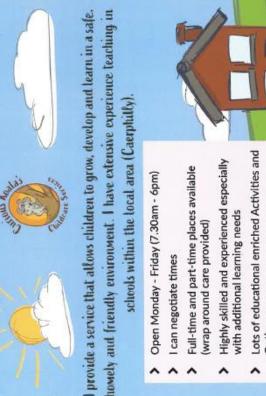
If so, please can you donate to our school office.

*We cannot accept any personalised items









Open Monday - Friday (7.30am - 6pm)

I can negotiate times

^ ^



with additional learning needs

Registered and Certified

Outlings

Qualified First-Aider

(wrap around care provided)

Ruth Coakley - Curious Koala Childcare Ruth Coakley - Curious Koala Childcare

Ruth Coakley - Curious Koala Childcare

Ruth Coakley - Curious Koala Childcare

Ruth Coakley - Curious Koala Childcare √ 07969 188 762

■ curlouskoalachildcare@mail.com

Ruth Coakley - Curious Koala Childcare

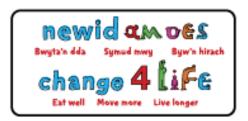
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easy ways to make lunchboxes healthier

School dinners are changing for the better. You should have noticed a difference in what's on offer, with healthier foods being served.

If your children prefer packed lunches here are some tips to help make their packed lunch healthier too. You can make up the lunch in the morning before school. Or, if you're usually pushed for time in the morning, prepare it the night before and put it in the fridge.

me sized meals

Even though they are growing children need to eat the right amount for their age. Young children will need quite small portions of foods and older children who are very active may need much larger amounts.

a healthy lunchbox contains a variety of foods

Start with starchy foods - always include foods like bread, rolls, bagels, wraps, rice, pasta or potato.

Start their packed lunch off with some starchy carbohydrate to give long-lasting energy. Use more wholegrain, brown or seeded bread as these are high in fibre. For a change from ordinary bread you could try pittas, bagels, baguettes, ciabatta, bread rolls or wraps.

Wholegrain or plain pasta or couscous can be mixed with meat, fish and vegetables and eaten cold.

and then Protein

Add a portion of food rich in protein, such as chicken, lean meat, fish, egg, or a meat alternative such as quorn either on its own or as a sandwich filler.

add a couple of portions of fruit and vegetables

Try to add a portion of fruit and a portion of vegetables to help towards their 5-a-day

need something extra?

Add a healthy snack like a low fat and sugar yoghurt, currant bun or rice pudding. Unsalted nuts are good to have at home but it is best to leave them out of your child's lunch box.

thirsty?

Remember always include a drink. Water, milk, pure unsweetened fruit juice/fruit smoothies (maximum of 150ml per day) are good choices. Fruit juices and smoothies are best drunk at mealtimes to avoid tooth decay. It is important your child has plenty of water to drink, this should be freely available in school.

five a day

As well as fresh fruit such as apples and bananas you can add variety by including a handful of grapes, chopped fresh fruit salad, orange segments or melon pieces, or a small box of raisins or tinned fruit in natural fruit juice.

- Don't forget to include some vegetables, such as cherry tomatoes, or sticks of carrot, cucumber, broccoli, celery and peppers.
- Once a week, why not go for a colourful mixed salad and a bread roll.

keep it cooll - avoid food poisoning

Lunchboxes should be kept cool – ideally use an insulated lunchbox with icepacks or a frozen carton of juice to keep it cool. If sandwiches are prepared the previous evening, always store them in a fridge overnight. And don't forget to keep the packed lunch cool at school.

here are a few lunch ideas to try, or you could make up your own combinations

Suggestions for a weeks packed lunch menus:

day one

Multigrain bread or rolls
Cheddar cheese with apple slices
or cranberry sauce or chopped
hard boiled eggs with cucumber or
lettuce

Banana Flapjack Pure fruit juice - orange



day two

Cooked pasta or couscous mixed with cooked chicken or turkey, tomatoes, and lettuce

Pear A pot of fruit yoghurt Sparkling water

day three

Multigrain bread or crackers Light low fat cheese spread and dried apricots or cucumber Tangerine /satsuma Malt loaf or scotch pancakes Pure fruit juice - apple

day four

Pitta pockets or wraps with ham with sliced tomatoes, lettuce and cucumber Apple

Bara Brith Yoghurt drink Plain water



day five

Ciabatta bread or bagels Tuna, cucumber, green pepper, sweetcorn and tomato Pot of mixed sliced fruit - melon and pineapple cubes with grapes Rice pudding pot Fruit smoothie

top tips for a healthier lunchbox

Pack foods attractively; cut foods into shapes; use a variety of containers. This is an opportunity to re-cycle packaging e.g. use clean, empty containers

- Involve your child in planning his/her lunchbox. Encourage him/her to try new foods.
 Variety is the key to a healthier lunchbox. Give praise, reward stickers etc, if they eat new foods.
- You could also raid the fridge for leftovers. Some foods taste just as good cold, such as pizza or pasta. Cook extra pasta or couscous. Mix with cut-up vegetables, and protein such as tuna, then just add your favourite dressing.
- Make sandwiches with thickly sliced bread, or choose rolls or mini pitta breads.
 Go for wholegrain or wholemeal varieties when you can.

Many children are taking food to school that contains too much saturated fat, salt and sugar. To help parents give their children varied and balanced lunchboxes, here are some practical tips and suggestions.

tips for cutting down on fat

Cut down on the amount of butter, margarine or mayonnaise you use and use lower fat talternatives.

 Use low-fat sandwich fillings, such as chicken, lean meats, ham, beef, fish (e.g. tuna), boiled egg.

tips for reducing sugar

Rather than drinks that are very high in sugar, such as fizzy drinks or 'juice drinks', go for water, milk or pure unsweetened fruit juice/fruit smoothies (not more than 150ml/day).

 Replace cakes, chocolates and biscuits with scones, currant buns, fruit bread, fruit, pot of rice pudding or yoghurt.

tips for reducing salt

Try not to add salt to food that you prepare and check out food labels for foods lower in salt.

tips for shopping trips

Reading supermarket food labels can help you to buy healthier foods for your child's lunch. Choose more 'greens' and 'ambers' and fewer 'reds' when filling up your shopping basket.

Healthy drinks in primary schools



There is a legal duty for local authorities and schools to **promote healthy drinking in schools**. The Welsh Government and Welsh Network of Healthy School Schemes recommend a whole-school approach.

Drink brought into school for personal consumption can be subject to restrictions at the discretion of the local authority or governing body of a school. Almost all primary schools in Wales specify:

- only water on desks, or freely available, in the classroom; and,
- only water and milk during break times.

Schools should create an environment and culture where it is **normal and easy for children to drink healthily**. School staff, along with parents/carers, are vitally important in the development of healthy drinking habits for life, through **consistent messages and role modelling**.

Water and milk should be the only drinks at break times in primary schools because:

- this helps children normalise drinking water throughout the school day, and into adulthood, as the best hydration method;
- water quenches thirst and is easily and freely accessible to children in school and at home;
- milk is a good source of protein, calcium and other vitamins and minerals;
- water has no additional calories, helping to maintain a healthy weight;
- drinking water can help to prevent a range of health issues such as headaches, bladder and bowel problems;
- water and milk do not damage teeth, unlike fruit juices and soft drinks, which include 'free sugars' and/or artificial sweeteners; and.
- squash and flavoured water, including sugar-free varieties, encourage children to develop a 'sweet tooth' and do not provide a nutritional benefit.

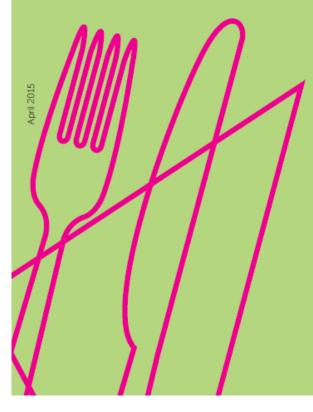


Primary School Food Requirements

Lunch

Lunch must provide the following foods **regularly**:

- At least one portion of fruit each day
- At least one portion of vegetable or salad each day
- Fruit based desserts at least twice each week
- · Fish at least once each week
- Oily fish at least twice in four weeks
- Meat cuts at least twice each week



School Day

The following foods are not allowed **before 6pm**:

- Additional salt
- Confectionery
- Savoury snacks

Where food is provided after breakfast & before 6pm:

- Fruit & vegetables must also be available
- Break time snacks should be fruit θ vegetables only
- Condiments must be 10ml or smaller
- Cakes & biscuits with lunch only
- Potato θ potato products cooked in fat or oil not more than twice each week
- Deep fried or flash fried food not more than twice each week
- Meat products not more than twice each week

For full details about the primary school food requirements & information about the nutritional standards for lunch refer to the Healthy Eating in Maintained Schools: Statutory Guidance for Local Authorities & Governing Bodies.

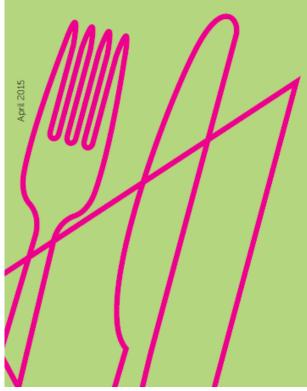


Nursery School Food Requirements

Lunch

Lunch must provide **each** of the following foods or achieve the primary school food requirements & nutritional standards:

- Fruit & vegetables
- Meat, fish or other non dairy sources of protein
- · Starchy foods
- Dairy foods & milk



School Day

The following foods are not allowed **before 6pm**:

- Additional salt
- Condiments
- Confectionery
- · Savoury snacks

Where food is provided after breakfast & before 6pm:

- Fruit & vegetables must also be available
- Snacks should consist of fruit, vegetables, salad, bread products, dairy products & non dairy sources of protein
- Cakes & biscuits with lunch only
- Potato θ potato products cooked in fat or oil not more than twice each week θ with lunch only
- **Deep fried** or **flash fried** food not more than twice each week θ with lunch only
- Meat products not more than twice each week & with lunch only

For full details about the nursery school food requirements & information about the nutritional standards for lunch refer to the Healthy Eating in Maintained Schools: Statutory Guidance for Local Authorities & Governing Bodies.



Primary School Drink Requirements

Breakfast & Lunch

Only the following drinks are allowed to be provided at

breakfast & lunch:

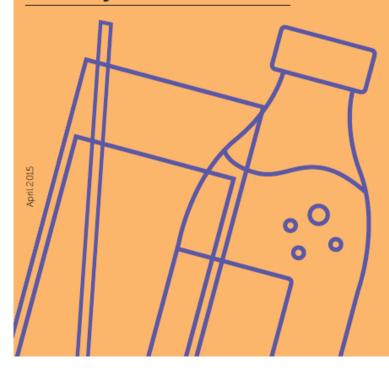
- Plain water (still or carbonated)
- Plain milk (semi skimmed or skimmed)
- · Plain soya, rice or oat drinks
- Fruit or vegetable juice (still or carbonated)
- Fruit or vegetable juice (still or carbonated) combined with water (at least 50% juice)
- Fruit or vegetable blends

School Day

Only the following drinks are allowed to be provided at other times during the school day **before 6pm**:

- Plain water (still or carbonated)
- Plain milk (semi skimmed or skimmed)
- Plain soya, rice or oat drinks

For full details about the primary school drink requirements & information about the nutritional standards for lunch refer to the Healthy Eating in Maintained Schools: Statutory Guidance for Local Authorities & Governing Bodies.





Nursery School Drink Requirements

Breakfast & Lunch

Only the following drinks are allowed to be provided at

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- Plain water (still or carbonated)
- Plain milk (whole or semi skimmed)
- Plain soya or oat drinks
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