

Bessemer Grange Primary School

Food Policy

1 Introduction

1.1 We have based this policy upon the DfE's 'School Food Standards' (DFE-00095-2014). This policy covers all food provided for and consumed in school before, during and after school and on school trips and in extra-curricular activities.

2 Aims and Objectives

2.1 Bessemer Grange is a school that fosters a healthy learning environment. Bessemer has signed up to Southwark Council's Single Equality Scheme and has a school health and well-being strategy in place which includes in its aims:

- The improvement all stakeholders' health and life chances.
- Ensuring everyone has equal treatment and access to services.
- The creation and operation of a healthy environment in which to work.
- The provision of healthy, nutritious food and access to water at all times of the day.

2.1 Our aim is to deepen our pupils' understanding and knowledge of food so that they are better able to make healthy food choices.

2.2 We do this by

- Increasing knowledge and understanding of what a healthy diet is through workshops and through the PSHE, Science and DT curriculums.
- Providing tasty, nutritious food that promote healthy choices
- Providing all KS1 and EYFS children with a healthy school meal.
- Offering a healthy school meal to all KS2 children.
- Providing safe, clean, drinking water throughout the day in classrooms.

- Promoting healthy food choices and explaining why they are good choices.
- Being role models for healthy eating
- Monitoring healthy food choices, including packed lunches
- Using a range of opportunities to promote healthy eating
- Ensuring consistent messages about healthy eating are reinforced throughout the school day

We are working towards being recognised by the Mayor of London as a healthy school and our food policy reflects this. We are also a nut-free school and ensure all school staff are aware of this when planning practical food education sessions.

3 Responsibility

3.1 It is the responsibility of all teaching, support and catering staff to implement the healthy food policy and to act as positive role models towards healthy eating. All staff must work towards improving our pupils' understanding of what healthy food choices mean.

3.2 The SLT develop and monitor the Healthy Food Policy and work with lunchtime meal supervisors, cooks, kitchen staff and caterers on implementing the policy.

3.3 The PSHE and science coordinators are responsible for what is taught about healthy eating. The Curriculum coordinator is responsible for ensuring how practical food education is embedded in the curriculum.

3.4 The lead governor on health and wellbeing ensures the policy is implemented.

3.5 The kitchen staff are responsible for ensuring that high quality healthy food options are provided each day, which comply with the national nutritional standards for food. They are also responsible for ensuring that the dinner hall is a welcoming, safe environment in which to eat.

4 Organisation

4.1 This policy contributes to other policies in the following ways:

- **Behaviour:** food is not used for rewards – instead we rely on praise, complimentary remarks, stickers, stars and celebration assembly certificates etc. Food is not used for end-of-term presents to pupils.
- **PSHE:** Healthy food and choices and practical food education is included in the curriculum
- **Science:** Healthy eating and nutrition is included in the curriculum
- **Equality:** we take account of the needs of all our children, including those with disabilities and allergies.

4.2 School lunches are provided by the school catering team who act in accordance with the DfE's School Food Standards. A copy of the weekly menu is on display in reception, in the dinner hall and online via the school website. The daily menu is displayed on a chalkboard in the hall. A calm, sociable atmosphere is encouraged with school staff eating their lunches with the children, modelling healthy food choices and supporting the children in their choices. New experiences are encouraged with special 'world food' days taking place each month. Staff monitor the children's food choices and systems are in place to pass concerns to the school welfare team.

4.3 We encourage families who are eligible for free school meals to take the offer up.

4.4 For exceptional events such as school parties and cultural occasions, food rules may be relaxed with the consultation with the Headteacher. On these occasions, healthy options will continue to be provided and encouraged.

4.5 Fizzy drinks and sweets (eg haribo) will not be permitted at any time. These items will be removed and returned to parents at the end of the day by the class teacher.

4.6 We ask that parents do not bring in food to be shared as part of their child's birthday celebrations and that anything that is brought in, must be shared at the end of the day once the children have been dismissed to their carers.

4.7 Packed lunches: See appendix A, packed lunch policy.

4.8 KS1 and EYFS children are provided with free fruit as a snack during the day. If children bring snacks for their after-school clubs, we ask that they follow our packed lunch policy.

4.9 We are a nut free school but we cannot guarantee that food products are totally nut free. Parents are asked to refrain from providing food products, which may

contain nuts, in packed lunches, or any other food brought into school and children with a nut or peanut allergy have a care plan in place. All staff are trained on how to recognise and manage allergic reactions.

4.10 Children are rewarded for being good role models in the dining hall with 'top table' rewards (a certificate and lunch in the headteacher's office with a member of the SLT at the end of the week).

5 Monitoring and review

5.1 This policy was drafted by the PSHE Coordinator with guidance from the Healthy Education Partnerships and the Senior Leadership Team.

5.2 It will be approved at the next governor's meeting and shared with staff via an inset.

5.3 It will be published on the school website for parents and external agencies to view.