Hillingdon Primary School Food Strategic Priorities

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The Hillingdon School Food Working Group has been established to progress and coordinate work against a set of seven strategic priorities for improving primary school food provision in the borough:

1. **Provide clear leadership to SLT on improving nutrition for primary students**
2. **Support primary schools to create calm, happy dining environments**
3. **Ensure that every Hillingdon child can access nutritious food at primary school**
4. **Drive up the quality of food on offer in Hillingdon's primaries**
5. **Encourage a positive and joyful relationship to food from reception onwards**
6. **Give primary students, families and schools a voice in improving school food in their borough**
7. **Reduce the amount of food going in the bin in Hillingdon's primaries.**

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Leadership

Strategic Priority 1: Provide clear leadership to SLT on improving nutrition for primary students.

Hillingdon School Food Working Group will provide schools with clear policies and guidance that: outline minimum standards of expected practice in the provision of food across the entire school day (clubs, lunch, packed lunches); promote and share existing best practices, and; support schools to successfully implement a whole school approach to food.

Expectation

- Statutory requirements around monitoring and governance of School Food Standards are fulfilled.
- There is clear leadership around school food.
- The school has a written school food policy, which is regularly monitored, reviewed and updated.
- There are clear rules about food and drinks brought in to be consumed at school by students and staff.
- Food is not offered as a reward for achievement or attendance.
- The school has a clear policy on nutritious packed lunches, and this is communicated and monitored.

Resources

Whole school sample policy (See LEAP)
Breakfast club tasting session guide
After school club guide
School food standards overview
School food standards for breakfast clubs
Midday supervisors: school food standards guidance
Tools for Schools | Connects Food

Dining Environment

Strategic Priority 2: Support primary schools to create calm, happy dining environments

Hillingdon School Food Working Group will ssupport schools to deliver the best possible dining environment - one which is designed to support children's nutrition, and which encourages a joyful and positive relationship to food for all students.

Expectation

- The dining environment actively promotes nutritious options.
- The canteen is a place where students can enjoy eating together.
- Students have access to free drinking water throughout the school day.

Resources

Creating calmer lunchtime environments.
How To Improve Lunchtime Behaviour
6 Immediate Lunchtime Behaviour Fixes
Water only school toolkit | London City Hall

Access

Strategic Priority 3: Ensure that every Hillingdon child can access nutritious food at primary school.

Expectation

- The school actively supports students with SEND around nutrition.
- The school is proactive in supporting families to take up their Free School Meal Entitlement.
- Students with dietary restrictions (e.g. vegetarian, vegan, halal, kosher) have equal access to nutritious food.

Resources

SEND school food standards guide
SEND packed lunches guide
SEND crunchy corn and cucumber salad
SEND hummus
SEND smashing peas
SEND fruity yoghurt cups
14 major allergens where information must be provided by law are 14-Allergens 16Nov21.pdf
Allergy guidance for schools - GOV.UK
Allergen guidance for institutional caterers | Food Standards Agency
Allergy UK | National Charity
Supporting pupils at school with medical conditions
Checklist for Headteachers
Universal Free School Meals - Leap
Auto-enrolment process

Quality

Strategic Priority 4: Drive up the quality of food on offer in Hillingdon's primaries

Expectation

- There are contract management processes in place for ensuring value for money and quality from contract caterers/ food providers.
- Funding for nutritious food in clubs is adequate, and sustainable.
- The school has a lunch offer which meets SFS.
- There is at least one dessert-free day a week, where dessert is replaced by fruit, yoghurt or cheese and crackers.
- All staff serving or providing food throughout the day are given guidance on portion size, SFS and the need for a balanced diet.
- Kitchen and midday staff are seen as part of the wider staff team.

Resources

Integrating your catering team with your school community
Six top tips for getting started on a new school food contract
School food standards overview
Checklist for Headteachers

Relationship to Food

Strategic Priority 5: Encourage a positive and joyful relationship to food from reception onwards

Expectation

- Cooking and growing are fully integrated into the curriculum
- Food education is adequately resourced

Resources

Stay informed about School Food Matters fully funded food education programmes via our newsletter
Our best resources for starting a school garden
Cooking and Nutrition | Food for Life
Growing | Food for Life
Teaching Cooking Confidently | Food for Life

Voice

Strategic Priority 6: Give primary students, families and schools a voice in improving school food in their borough.

Expectation

- Student voice is woven into decisions about school food.
- Parents are positively engaged around school food.
- Kitchen and midday staff are seen as part of the wider staff team.

Resources

School Nutrition Action Groups (SNAG)
Parents | School Food Matters
Integrating your catering team with your school community

Waste

Strategic Priority 7: Reduce the amount of food going in the bin in Hillingdon's primaries**.**

Expectation

- The school works to reduce food waste.

Resources

Reducing Food Waste In Schools — Food Savvy