

## School Food Matters survey – tell us how we can help you to improve the food at your school

<p>Purpose</p>	<p>We want to know how we can support you to improve the food at your school.</p> <p>LBH have commissioned the charity <a href="#">School Food Matters</a> to undertake a survey in primary schools which will shape the universal offer to support improvements to school food in Hillingdon.</p> <p>The survey will ask some basic questions about the food at your school to give us insight into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What schools are already doing well</li> <li>• What schools need support with</li> <li>• How schools would like to receive that support (online, in person, etc.)</li> </ul> <p>The survey is the start of a comprehensive piece of work taking place between now and January 2025. It will provide an overview and set the stage for in-person audits at 20 Hillingdon primaries (see below). This project will also bring together data from previous surveys to provide the most complete picture possible on what support schools need.</p>
<p>Why is this important</p>	<p>High quality food provision across the school day is essential to underpin and reinforce health behaviours of children. It can</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mitigate in part against the impact of household food insecurity and reducing health inequalities</li> <li>• Improve child healthy weight and oral health</li> <li>• Positively impact children’s educational and behavioural outcomes, contributing to narrowing the attainment gap for disadvantage pupils.</li> </ul> <p>In 2022-23, 19% of children on Reception were classified as overweight or obese. This doubles by Year 6, increasing to 38.3%.</p> <p>Poor oral health is among the highest in London, with 28.2% of children aged 5, having visually obvious dental decay.</p>
<p>How will I receive the survey</p>	<p>The survey will be sent to Heads by the Education team via email on the 18<sup>th</sup> June. The Chair of school governors will also be emailed to inform them of the survey. The link to the survey is below:</p> <p><a href="https://forms.office.com/e/RzHrkXSjCh">https://forms.office.com/e/RzHrkXSjCh</a></p>
<p>How long is need to complete the survey</p>	<p>The survey should take no longer than 10 minutes to complete. We know your time is very valuable. Our goal is to hear directly from schools about how we can best support them to improve the food at their school.</p>

Who should complete the survey	We ask that the Head Teacher complete the survey because the survey asks questions about leadership and governance. Deputy Heads or other members of SLT may be able to respond too. Only one response is required from each school.
Deadline for completion	Friday 19 July
Incentives	<p>The Mayor's Fund for London will be providing 400 meal kits for families to take home. These will be provided at the end of term.</p> <p>We will allocate these to a small number of schools who complete the survey first.</p>
How will the results of the survey be communicated	The results of the survey will be shared through the Education Weekly Update and at the Head Teacher Termly in November.
School Audits	<p>The survey data will be used, alongside other factors, to develop a sampling matrix to identify schools we will invite to participate in a full day schools food audit.</p> <p>We will contact 20 schools in the Autumn Term and school visits will be undertaken between September and December 2024. These visits will be conducted by the School Food Matters team.</p> <p>The audits provide a comprehensive picture of current practice (no preparation required) and will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Look at food across the whole school day, from breakfast to after school provision,</li> <li>• Review compliance to and understanding of School Food Standards</li> <li>• Gather evidence of meal quality, drivers and challenges to improving practice, and the wider elements of whole school food culture</li> <li>• Collect information about caterers and contracts, and any issues in the kitchen.</li> </ul>
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