



Lunch time arrangements at Green Park Village Primary Academy

Lunch time

We run a traditional school lunch arrangement. The children eat together in our hall, which becomes our 'dining room'. They sit at family style round or rectangular tables. Hot meals are served from our hot and cold counters at our specially designed servery.

We gently encourage children to eat their food and to try new options. However, please note that we will never 'force' a child to eat. We communicate with parents, as and when appropriate, regarding any observations we make which we feel parents should be made aware of.

School lunches

The government currently fund school lunches for all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. This is called 'Universal Free School Meals' (USM). Therefore, we encourage all parents to take up this fantastic offer for their child.

Crumbs, a local provider, provide our lunches. They deliver these to school. We pay for a member of the Crumbs Team to serve the lunches. This ensures the expertise around food hygiene and standards that match our high expectations around all of our practice.

The menu is set on a four weekly cycle. The dates are on the food menu alongside the four menu weeks. Parents will need to select the desired food choice for their child in advance. This occurs online and parents re sent the links directly via the main contact email addresses. If parents do not select a food choice by the deadline, then a packed lunch will need to be provided by the parent. We will not over order meals 'just in case' as this could mean both food wastage and additional cost to the school, which would impact on what we can provide for the children in other areas.

On first joining the school or in moving from packed lunches to school meals, parents can elect to order a school meal and provide their own items, if they wish for their child to try school meal food items and to have a 'back up' option. In this circumstance, we will serve the school meal first for children to 'try'. Please talk to the school team if this is an approach you wish to use, however please note that this is not an extended approach beyond a transition period to eating school meals.

Dietary requirements (preferences or allergies)

All dietary requirements can easily be met- meat, vegetarian, Halal or other. Details of menus and ingredients are shared in advance for parents' awareness and these are found on our school website:

<http://greenparkvillageacademy.org/school-meals/>

Please read this information to double check your child is able to eat the option you select for them. We will act on all information shared by parents regarding their child's dietary needs or preferences.

Please ensure that this is provided and then kept up to date if anything changes over time. The school will need written details submitted, even if a verbal update is given. We will liaise with multi-agencies/ other professionals (School Nurse, dieticians, paediatricians) as and when required.

Pupil safety

We colour code our orders by a wrist band (washed daily) and a tray. This ensures our children receive their selected meal. The school and Crumbs team share dietary information to ensure a cross-check occurs:

- Red- meat;
- Yellow- Halal meat (if a different option to the main meat option);
- Green- vegetarian;
- Blue- other- staff will be aware of individual dietary needs/ preferences.

We will cross-check a preference made by a parent to the dietary information we hold- for example, if a parent has advised no pork and then orders a meal containing sausage for their child, then we will call home. *We have known this sort of situation to occur in other schools, hence us always double checking.*

Packed lunches

Children are welcome to bring in a packed lunch. These get placed on designated trolleys in the cloakroom at the beginning of the day. The trolleys are then wheeled to the dining hall at lunchtime. Please note that we do not have the facilities to keep lunch boxes cool, so please consider this when selecting food items for your child and packing these items.

We return all 'not eaten' food home in the packed lunch box, so that parents have full visibility on what their child is eating/ not eating. Again, please put thought to this when packing the lunch box.

If you have any questions or queries, please email:

office@greenparkvillageacademy.org