

Hade Edge Junior and Infant School
Packed Lunch Policy

As a Kirklees Healthy School, we encourage children to take up the healthy school meal option however if you should wish your child to have a packed lunch we can accommodate this. Please note that we do not allow children to bring sweets or chocolate to school and this includes contents of lunch boxes.

We also ask you to be aware that some children in school do have a nut or other food allergy and for this reason we ask that no nut products are brought into school at any time.

Overall aims of the policy:

To ensure that all packed lunches brought from home and consumed in school (or on school trips) provide the pupil with healthy and nutritious food that is similar to food served in schools, which is now regulated by national standards.

To make a positive contribution to children's health and Healthy Schools Status.

To encourage a happier and calmer population of children and young people.

National guidance:

This policy was drawn up using a range of national documents including information and a draft policy from the School Food Trust, the Food in schools toolkit (Department of Health) and Food policy in schools - a strategic policy framework for governing bodies.

Where, when and to whom the policy applies:

To all pupils and parents providing packed lunches to be consumed within school or on school trips during normal school hours.

Food and drink in packed lunches:

The school will provide facilities for pupils bringing in packed lunches and ensure that free, fresh drinking water is readily available at all times.

The school will work with the pupils to provide attractive and appropriate dining room arrangements.

The school will work with parents to ensure that packed lunches abide by the standards listed below.

As fridge space is not available in school, pupils are advised to bring packed lunches in insulated bags with freezer blocks where possible to stop the food going off.

The school will ensure that packed lunch pupils and school dinner pupils are able to sit and eat together.

Following the advice from the government in their 'Food in Schools' document, packed lunches at Hade Edge School should ensure that food is nutritious and of high quality that promotes good nutritional health and encourages good eating behavior.'

Packed lunches should avoid:

Crisps on a regular basis and instead should encourage things such as savory crackers or breadsticks served with fruit, vegetables or dairy food are also a good choice.

Confectionary such as chocolate bars, chocolate- coated biscuits and sweets.

Cakes and biscuits are allowed but we encourage you to only include these as part of a healthy balanced meal.

Special diets and allergies:

The school recognises that some pupils may require special diets that do not allow for the standards to be met exactly. In this case parents are urged to be responsible in ensuring that packed lunches are as healthy as possible. For these reasons pupils are also not permitted to swap food items. As a school we are responsible for ensuring a care plan is in place for all pupils with dietary and allergy requirements. Care plans are formed with the professional advice of medical practitioners.

Assessment, evaluation and reviewing:

Packed lunches will be regularly reviewed by teaching/catering staff.

Parents and pupils who do not adhere to the Packed Lunch Policy will receive a note in the packed lunch informing them of the Policy. If a child regularly brings a packed lunch that does not conform to the policy then the school will contact the parents to discuss this.

Involvement of parents/carers:

Pupils are normally expected to eat the lunch provided by the school. However, parents of pupils wishing to have packed lunches for a particular reason are expected to provide their children with packed lunches which conform to the packed lunch policy. In turn, the school will keep the parents informed as per the methods detailed below under "Dissemination of the Policy".

Dissemination of the policy:

The policy will be available on the school's website and will be referred to in the school prospectus and home / school agreement.

The school will use opportunities such as parents evenings and Healthy Living weeks to promote this policy as part of a whole school approach to healthier eating.

All school staff, including teaching and catering staff and the school nurse, will be informed of this policy and will support its implementation.