



PINNER PARK INFANT & NURSERY SCHOOL

Universal Free School Meals Statement

Under the Universal Free School Meals Scheme, the school provides free hot school meals for every child in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 on a daily basis.

The school has its own kitchen where staff from the outside provider Taylor Shaw cook and serve the meals each day. The meals are planned centrally by Taylor Shaw in line with all the appropriate Food Regulations and Nutrition Standards.

The parents/carers of all children with an identified medical dietary need, such as allergies or intolerances, regardless of whether or not they are having a hot school meal, will need to provide medical confirmation of this along with a care plan specifying the issue, symptoms and treatment. They will need to speak to school staff about this, meet with a Welfare Assistant to discuss the condition and sign consent forms for medication to be given, if appropriate.

If parents/carers of a child with an identified dietary medical need want their child to have a hot school meal they will need to supply Taylor Shaw with medical confirmation. In most cases the company will then be able to provide a special menu to make a choice from.

The school meals run on a three week menu rota which gets repeated across the terms. The menu gets changed half way through the year and parents will need to complete new forms in advance of the change.

Each day there are three options for the main course - a meat dish, a vegetarian dish and a jacket potato. The meat (chicken, lamb or turkey) is Halal by default, but parents can specifically request non-Halal meat if they so wish.

Parents are asked to complete an order form at the beginning of the year indicating their child's choice of meal for each day over the three week cycle, or opt to provide a packed lunch for that day, and return the order to school.



Before going into the dining hall, each child is given a coloured wrist band to indicate which of the three dishes they have opted for. Children are also given a card to carry if they have a specific dietary need - allergy, intolerance, cultural requirement or non-Halal meat. Children who have had a medical certificate presented to Taylor Shaw and have had a special menu devised for them, are served with their specifically cooked meal.

Each child then chooses for themselves from two options of vegetables and they can also have a piece of bread and a selection of items from the salad bar. The children also make their own choice of dessert, choosing from that day's special, fresh fruit or yoghurt.



Each class has a School Meal Supervisory Assistant (SMSA), or 'Dinner Lady' as they are known to the children, allocated to them for the year. She is provided with all the necessary information about dietary needs and cultural choices for every child in her class. At the beginning of the week she also receives a sheet showing that week's menu and indicating each child's choice for each day of the week. Each day the children are given a wrist band to indicate which meal they have requested and the SMSA will oversee the giving out of the meals. She also monitors how well the children eat, ensure drinks are drunk, and reports any concerns about eating back to the class teacher who then discusses the issue with the child's parents / carers.

Parents/carers are asked to keep a record of what choice they have made for each day of the cycle and to ensure they stick to their decision. The kitchen orders the ingredients at the end of the previous week according to the number of each meal ordered. It is therefore important that children take their meal if it has been ordered for them rather than being provided with a packed lunch. Likewise, if a meal has not been ordered, parents must provide a packed lunch as there will not be a hot school meal for them. Meal choices can be altered by completing a new order form, the form needs to be handed in by Thursday for the change to take effect the following week.



If providing a packed lunch, parents/carers are asked to make it as healthy as possible - the school does not allow any fizzy drinks, chocolate or sweets in packed lunches. The school also asks that all nuts and nut spreads are avoided as there are children who have severe reactions when they come into contact with nuts and the oils from nuts.