

INFORMATION ON LUNCHES AT SCHOOL

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Since September 2014, **ALL** children in the school years **Foundation, Year 1 and Year 2** have been entitled to a **FREE SCHOOL MEAL**.

At Godmanchester Bridge Academy, our catering is provided by Edwards & Blake and we offer 4 different meal options, including a roll or wrap which is designed to offer the children something similar to a packed lunch.

At the start of the term, parents will be sent a menu showing the choice for the children. Each day at registration the children will be asked by the teacher/teaching assistant to choose their lunch for that day.

If your child is going on a school trip, the school can provide a packed lunch for them; the children will be given a choice to make which will be on the trip letter.

If you have another child in Key Stage 2 (Years 3, 4, 5, & 6), you will still need to **pay for their school meals**. Payment can be made through our online payment system Sims pay.

PUPIL PREMIUM

Your child may be eligible if you are claiming Income Support, Job Seekers Allowance or Child Tax Credits and have an income under £16190. If you meet the criteria for Pupil Premium. It is important to complete the online application form (this link is on the new parent intake page on the website). This will mean the school is given extra funding to support your child in a number of ways including extra learning support and pastoral care.

PACKED LUNCHES

If you are sending in a packed lunch for your child, please can we remind parents of our school policy of what should, and should not, constitute a nutritious packed lunch.

We would recommend a sandwich (not chocolate spread or jam) / pasta salad or similar; a piece of fruit; a yoghurt or cheese; breadsticks or crispbreads; cake or plain biscuits (as long as they do NOT contain nuts or nut products such as marzipan) **and** a drink (not fizzy please).

Things that **should not be included** in a packed lunch are chocolate bars or chocolate spread sandwiches; **anything containing nuts** as we have children with severe allergies; and any fizzy drinks. Children will **not** be permitted to consume these items on school premises.

For more ideas for healthy and nutritional packed lunches, please visit <http://www.childrensfoodtrust.org.uk/parents/schoolfood/packedlunches>

If you are providing your child with anything that requires cutlery to eat, such as yoghurt, please provide the necessary cutlery in the lunch box.

Finally, children have a full and busy day at school, and they are hungry at lunch time, so please do provide a meal that will fill and sustain them for the remainder of the day.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: What do I need to do to claim Free School Meals for my child?

A: Nothing, there is no form to complete. Any meal your Foundation, year 1 or 2 child takes in school will not be charged. All your child needs to do is make their lunch choice each morning as they complete their registration. You only need to complete an application if your child is eligible for **Pupil Premium Funding (follow the link on the New Intake page of the website)**.

Q: Does my child have to have school meals?

A: No, you can send a packed lunch if you wish. We do encourage all children to have a school meal as there is significant evidence to show that having a hot, nutritionally balanced meal at lunch time improves concentration and learning. (Full information on packed lunches can be found above.)

Q: My child is a bit fussy about food. What if they don't like the hot food on the menu?

A: At Godmanchester Bridge Academy, we offer a choice of hot or cold food every day. There are 4 different main items to choose from daily, so the children have plenty of choice. The meals on the hot menu are things like roast chicken, sausages, lasagne and pizza. On the cold menu there are ham rolls, cheese sandwiches or wraps. We also cater for all dietary restrictions.

If you have any questions about the school meals on offer or any concerns you feel are specific to your child, please contact the school office on 01480 276599 and we will be happy to discuss further.