



Healthy Eating Policy 2013

Introduction

Cranbury College is committed to encouraging and developing positive attitudes towards food and a healthy diet. In accordance with the Every Child Matters agenda 2004, and to support the 5 outcomes for children, promoting a healthy life style is integral to our curriculum and we recognise the importance of offering our pupils the opportunity to make informed choices about what, when, where and why they eat.

As a college we know that food is fundamental to the quality of a child's life, not just in providing essential nutrition but in communicating and sharing positive values, attitudes and experiences with each other.

We believe that adults (staff, parents and carers) should be good role models and should support our pupils in understanding how balanced nutrition contributes to a person's health, happiness and general well-being.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the policy of Chartwell's – our in house caterers

1. Aims and Objectives

1.1 To improve the health of pupils, staff and the whole college community by helping to influence eating habits through increasing knowledge and awareness of food issues including what constitutes a healthy diet.

1.2 To ensure pupils are well nourished at college and that every pupil has access to safe, tasty and nutritious food and a safe, easily available water supply during the college day.

1.3 To ensure that food provision in the college acknowledges the ethical and medical requirements of staff and pupils e.g. religious, vegetarian, medical and allergenic needs.

1.4 To introduce and promote practices within the college to reinforce these aims and to remove or discourage practices that negate them.

1.5 To recognise that healthy eating does not mean NO treats but it does mean having them at appropriate times and not too often.

2. Organisation - Curriculum

2.1 We regard healthy eating education as a whole-college issue, and we believe that opportunities to teach about the importance of living a healthy lifestyle occur throughout the curriculum.

2.2 Healthy eating education forms an important part of our college's curriculum. The importance of balanced nutrition and healthy food choices is explicitly taught through the Food Technology and PSE curriculum.

2.3 All pupils have the opportunity to learn about safe food preparation and to learn about where food has come from. Pupils learn about the components of a healthy diet through the FT curriculum.

3. Organisation – Management of Eating

At Cranbury College,

3.1 All children are encouraged to bring in a water bottle so they can have access to water throughout the day.

3.2 Chocolate, sweets, biscuits, crisps, and cakes are actively discouraged as everyday snacks in college as are chewing gum and fizzy drinks.

3.3 Because we recognise that there is no such thing as “bad food”, we teach the children to enjoy treats in moderation.

3.4 Birthdays, and special events are also times where food contributes to a sense of celebration and sharing. On these occasions foods which are not classed as “healthy” may be offered, but the staff will remind the children that this is an “occasional” treat and not “every day food”.

3.5 The college community is aware of the possibility of food allergies within the college population, particularly nut allergies. Parents or carers of pupils who are on special diets for medical or religious reasons, or who have allergies, will be asked to provide as much information as possible about which foods are suitable or foods which must be avoided. This information will be displayed in the staff room and in the college kitchen.

3.6 The college, however, does not claim to be a “nut free college”. Further, advice from allergies web-sites suggest that it is in the interest of pupils’ longer term safety, that they learn to be aware of the risks of cross contamination and that they learn to manage the risks themselves.

3.7 No pupil is made to finish all the food that they are offered because we know that appetites vary from person to person. However, we do actively encourage the pupils to “try a little bit more” if they can to ensure that they are not hungry later on in the day.

4. College Meals

4.1 The hot meals service is offered through Chartwell’s Catering Service and college staff work closely with the college cook to ensure the healthiest possible diet is provided.

Each day a choice of salads and fresh fruit are offered as possible choices. There are strict guide lines determining the meals that are available through the course of the week and these are in accordance with the Healthy Food Standards in Schools that came into force in 2006.

4.2 The weekly college lunch menu is displayed in the front entrance for pupils and parents to view. **The weekly lunch menu is sent home on a termly basis for parents and children to discuss meal choices.**

4.3 The headteacher monitors the quality of the meals on a regular basis and children are encouraged to give regular feedback on the quality and variety of the food as well.

5. Chartwell’s Catering in partnership with Cranbury College Lunchtime “Manifesto” We

- respect the pupils as valued customers
- give the pupils time and space to eat in a calm and attractive environment
- help the pupils to see that enjoying food and eating meals with others contributes to a happy lifestyle, promoting the idea that lunch times are a happy, social occasion
- encourage the pupils to find out more about achieving a healthy balance
- encourage the pupils to try new foods and flavours in a supportive environment
- promote college food to pupils and parents
- listen to and accept constructive feedback and respond accordingly

6. The role of Parents:

6.1 The college is aware that the primary role model in children’s healthy eating education lies with parents. We wish to build a positive and supportive relationship with the parents of pupils at our college through mutual understanding, trust and co-operation. In promoting this objective **we will:**

- inform parents about the college healthy eating education policy and practice;
- encourage parents to be involved in reviewing college policy and making modifications to it as necessary
- inform parents about the best practice known with regard to healthy eating so that the parents can support the key messages being given to children at the college.

7. The role of the Management Committee:

7.1 The Management Committee recognises its responsibility for setting a strategic framework for the College's Healthy Eating Policy and for monitoring its implementation.

7.2 The committee supports the Headteacher in following guidelines from Chartwell's and external agencies as regards what constitutes "healthy eating".

8. Monitoring and Evaluation:

8.1 The effective implementation of this policy will be monitored by the Headteacher, Chartwell's and the Management Committee.

8.2 The policy will be evaluated after 2 years through a survey of the views of the whole college community, particularly the views of pupils.