



Neston Primary School

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Where Learning Adventures Begin...

26th January 2015

Dear Parents

I am writing to clarify the situation regarding our school packed lunches which will be changing to comply with government legislation.

As you know, from September 2014 all pupils in Reception to Year 2 have been able to receive a free school meal under the government's Universal Infant Free School Meals (UFSM) scheme. Schools have a legal requirement from January 2015 to provide a lunchtime meal that meets the School Food Standards which were introduced to ensure that children get the nutrition they need across the whole school day. The government expects that pupils will be offered a hot meal option. Where schools are not in a position to offer hot options, they should be working towards doing so as soon as possible.

At Neston, our kitchen was not initially able to comply with offering hot meals to all our children and we have been working closely with our caterers, Chartwells to rectify this. We received a government grant to purchase additional equipment and to carry out work to our kitchen to enable us to have the capacity to do so. As a result, we were able to offer school packed lunches to pupils who qualify for UFSMs as a special dispensation until this work was completed.

We have now completed all the alterations and therefore we will be withdrawing the school packed lunch option and only providing the hot meal option to our children in Reception to Year 2. Therefore, with effect from Monday 23rd February, children in Willow, Oak and Silver Birch will no longer be offered a packed lunch option in school, unless there is a school trip.

The current hot meals menu will continue, until Easter. We would ask that you have a look through the menu with your child, so that they know what the meal choices are each day. The menu can be found on the school website and copies are also available from the school office.

We will continue to offer the school packed lunch option to older children from Year 3 onwards, until further notice.

Yours sincerely
Pam Evans
Headteacher

