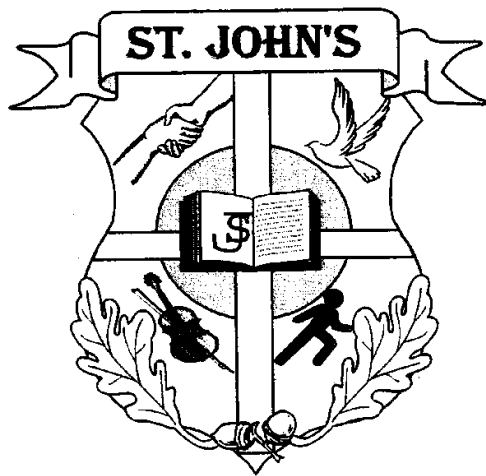


**St. John's Primary School
Bligh's Lane
Derry**

**A Policy for Whole School Food
2026**



“Learning Together Growing Together”

Mission Statement

At St. John's Catholic, Primary School (PS), we provide a happy, nurturing, inclusive, learning, environment which delivers high quality outcomes and life-enriching experiences. We embrace diversity and encourage all to respect the environment and develop the confidence and digital skillset required to contribute to society and the local and global economy. We work collaboratively with parents/carers and community partners to promote the social, emotional, intellectual, and spiritual well-being of each individual, thereby enabling our school family to 'Learn Together' and 'Grow Together.'

Aim

To ensure that all aspects of food and nutrition in school promote the health and wellbeing of children, staff and visitors to our school.

Objectives

- Promote healthy eating and drinking in the school throughout the school day;
- Review the formal curriculum to ensure information relating to food and nutrition in different lesson areas is consistent and up to date;
- Work with school caterer to promote healthy food options;
- Establish activities and special events to promote healthy eating and drinking;
- Ensure the formal curriculum promotes a healthy diet and lifestyle;
- Be proactive in the management of children with food allergies;
- Provide parents with information on healthy eating; and
- Ensure that every child has access to a food snack in the mornings.

Action

We will meet our objectives by: -

- Discussing food and nutrition issues at school council meetings and class council meetings;
- Working with school caterer on healthy food options, running a theme day e.g. 'Fruit Friday' and 'Funky food Friday' and publicising this in school newsletter;
- Linking with health promoting events;
- Maintaining and monitoring the register of children who are at risk from food related products and liaise with parents and health professionals as required;
- Providing health tips for parents about healthier lunch boxes and snacks; and
- Seeking sponsorship for morning break from local businesses and members of our community.

N.B. Due to the high volume of children with food allergies, parents are kindly asked to refrain from bringing cakes or homemade produce into school for sharing.

Monitoring and evaluation

We will monitor and evaluate progress through: -

- Reporting on progress to the school council and reviewing policy in light of improvement and changes;
- Formal curriculum, teachers being able to identify food-based topics through schemes of work;
- Breakfast club, school caterer reporting on the number of children using service. Asking children, parents and teachers their thoughts about the club and the range of food;
- Food activities, competitions and a display of photographs in the canteen;
- Extra-curricular, cooking club and post photographs on school website; and
- Records of health and safety incidents concerning food allergies.

This policy will be reviewed in 2029 or in line with new legislation/recommendations.

Signed: _____

Kathleen McCallion
(Chairperson of the Board of Governors)

Date: _____

(Ratified at Board of Governors' Meeting)