



Hot school meals (free to all children up to the age of 7)

All school aged children up to the age of 7 are entitled to a free hot school meal. At Benhall we have the hot meals brought on to site through Caterlink and find that they are very popular. Menus are changed each Spring, Summer and Winter term. The menus are uploaded on to the school's website so that you always have easy access to them.

Each day there will be a choice of meals. There is no need to pre-order as the children will tell the teacher what they want when the register is being taken. In the first few weeks it might be a good idea for you to go through the menu with your child and decide together what they want to order. Sometimes though children change their minds when they know what their friend is having so be prepared for them to tell you they ate something different to what you were expecting them to have! There is always a vegetarian option on the menu and we can cater for children with allergies. Please make sure you contact the school office if your child requires one of the special menus so that we can get the correct paperwork completed and ensure the kitchen are aware.

Throughout the year the school is required to submit information to the Education Department, these are called Census Days. On the Census Days the information collected will help to determine each school's budget for the coming year. Funding for school is based on a number of factors, one being the uptake of hot school meals. The more pupils who have a meal on Census Day, the more funding school receives and as you will all be aware, school budgets are very tight so every little helps and the more funding we receive, means we can provide even more exciting resources in the classroom and extra support where appropriate. We will inform you of the Census dates and ask that on those days all children order a hot lunch. If your child doesn't normally have a hot meal this is an ideal opportunity for them to try it out with their friends.

If you require any further information about the hot school dinners please contact Mrs Wintle in the school office – clerical@benhall.gloucs.sch.uk

Kind regards

Nicky Morris
Headteacher



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