

School Lunch Information for Primary One Parents



SCHOOL LUNCHES

Ordering lunch

Lunches are ordered first thing in the morning, as the children arrive into class. The children order their lunch via a system on the interactive whiteboard. Each class is set up with a photograph of every child and when children click on their photograph it takes them to the lunch options for that day. Children then click on their choice of lunch. In primary one this is done with the teacher and only one child can order at a time. We have a 'soft start' to our morning where the children filter in and play in the play areas, this allows the teacher time to complete the register and support children with the lunch ordering. The teacher will help each child make their choice however it is really helpful if you have discussed the lunch menu with your child prior to them coming in so that they have an idea of what they are going to order that day. The menus can be found on the East Renfrewshire website and our school website.

Lunch bands

The catering staff receive the lunch orders via the online system. They use this information to prepare a set of rubber wrist bands for each class. Each item on the menu that day has a corresponding coloured band, see below:

Hot 2 – red

Hot 2 – yellow

Baked potato – green

Baguette – white

Sandwich - grey

Allergy requirements – purple

Halal and lifestyle requirements– blue

These bands are delivered to the classes across the morning. As well as the bands, each bag also has a class list of names which identifies the colour of band that each individual child should be given that day, it also identifies if anyone has an allergy, lifestyle or cultural dietary requirements.

In addition to their lunch order band, children with dietary requirements are also given an additional band to wear. This allows them to subtly be identifiable to the catering team and ensures that they receive the correct meal.

Class teachers use the class list to distribute the bands, this is carried out just before the children leave the classroom to make their way up to the lunchroom to ensure that the bands don't get lost.

Lunchroom

The children are taken into the lunchroom a little earlier than their lunchtime, this allows them to be seated and settled by their class teacher. In line with current guidance, the children sit in their classes. Children having packed lunches and school lunches all sit together. The children are served their lunch by the catering team, at this point the children's band are taken from them. We are very lucky to have teachers that go above and beyond, our primary one staff always stay until they are sure that every child has been served and is well settled with their lunch. We often have to chase them out the lunchroom to go and get their own lunch!

If there are any issues with lunches, such as a child realising that they don't like what they have ordered, our catering team are extremely accommodating and supportive and will always offer an alternative for children.

The lunchroom is supervised by members of our Senior Leadership Team and Pupil Support Assistants.

Children with allergy bands/blue bands are ONLY served by the Catering Supervisor, Sylvia. Although all catering staff are aware of children's dietary needs, Sylvia takes responsibility to ensure that they are given the correct lunch.

Specialist diets

If your child needs a special diet for medical reasons, you should pick up a medically prescribed diet registration form and send this with a letter from a medical professional confirming the details of the diagnosis to the school office. For any pupils wishing to access the vegan or vegetarian menu, then a lifestyle request form should be completed. For pupils wishing to access the Halal menu, then a cultural diet request form should be completed. The Halal menu is the same as the school lunch menu however if a child is registered for halal, they will be served the halal version of the meal.

Once any dietary requirement forms are returned to our office they are actioned immediately. This means that this information goes onto the catering system beside the child's name and photograph. This, along with the blue bands, allows the catering team to identify any children with dietary requirements.

If our catering team require any more information around a child's dietary requirement then they will make contact with parents and carers.

Sylvia is extremely approachable and always happy to speak to parents in person about any concerns or questions that they may have around their child's dietary requirements. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact her via our school office by emailing SchoolMail@crookfur.e-renfrew.sch.uk or by phoning 0141-570-7120.

A day in the life of East Renfrewshire school meals

The link below will take you to an authority video 'A day in the life of East Renfrewshire school meals', this along with the lunch menus for this session can be found on our school website.

<https://youtu.be/Cpv878PSs7Q>

I hope that you find the above information about lunches helpful and that it has answered any questions that you may have around the lunchtime ordering system. This information would normally have been covered during one of our primary one induction sessions when parents also get to meet with Sylvia.

Please do not hesitate to contact myself or Sylvia if you have any further questions about any of the above.

Kind regards,
C Jamieson
Claire Jamieson
Depute Head Teacher



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