



Food Policy

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Responsibility: Manager

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What Families Must Provide

Children must bring their own morning snack, lunch, and water bottle.

We request that children are sent in with food and utensils that they are capable of opening and eating without help. We are unable to heat children's food.

Families must provide us with information through MagicBooking if their child has any allergies or dietary restrictions.

What Camp Canary Provides

Camp Canary provides snacks for afternoon Assembly and Late Club. Snacks are usually a piece of fruit or vegetable with a small amount of fibre, fat, or protein to aid in fullness (e.g., cheese or a plain biscuit). An additional snack may be provided during the Juniors' Summer Trips.

We do not regularly serve sugary snacks. Care is taken to avoid foods that may cause a choking hazard for young children (e.g., grapes).

If children do not have sufficient food from home, we will supply them with extra snacks from our stores. Cups are available for children who forget their water bottle.

Allergies & Nut Free Policy

As life-threatening nut allergies are common in children, we do not provide any food containing nuts. Staff and parents must also refrain from bringing in any nuts or food containing nuts.

All other allergies and dietary requirements are accounted for. Information regarding which children have allergies is disseminated to staff through the registers and name badges.

Food Storage

Foods are stored onsite at the appropriate temperatures.

The fridge and its shelves are cleaned at the start and end of Camps with warm soapy water. Its temperature is checked daily.

Food Preparation Standards

Staff preparing food are expected to follow these hygiene standards.

Personal hygiene:

- Always wash hands with soap and hot water before and after handling food and using the toilet.
- Do not engage in food preparation if unwell.
- Remove jewellery, especially rings, watches, and bracelets, before preparing food.
- Cover spots or sores on the hands and arms with a waterproof dressing.
- Keep fingernails clean.

Food preparation procedures:

- Check food for freshness and disposing of anything out of date or visibly unsuitable to eat.
- Use clean cloths.
- Use the correct colour coded chopping boards (e.g. red for raw meat).
- Make sure all fruit and vegetables are washed before being served.
- Clean surfaces and chopping boards after use with soapy water or anti-bacterial spray.

During Snack and Lunchtimes

- Children sit at tables in their classroom to eat during morning snack and lunchtime. Afternoon snack is eaten sitting on the floor in Assembly.
- While eating, music may be played but nothing is shown on the classroom screens. Play Workers encourage the children to avoid multi-tasking while eating so they can concentrate on their food.
- Play Workers supervise the children eating. A note is made of children who do not eat their lunch, and this communicated to parents at the end of the day.
- We do not force children to eat if they are unwilling. Any food left uneaten is left in the lunchbox so parents can see.
- In order to help families regulate how much and what their child eats, children may not share food.
- Withholding food is never used as a form of punishment.

Mini Chefs

We sometimes schedule Mini Chefs as an activity or hold special cooking workshops facilitated by external providers. During these sessions children are led in making food or drinks that

coincide with our theme for the week, e.g. chocolate eggs in nests for Easter. Allergies and dietary restrictions are accounted for.

Surfaces and children's hands are washed before and after these sessions. Care is given to ensuring age-appropriate safety standards are upheld regarding knives. Children do not have access to a stove or oven.

Food and drinks made during these sessions may be consumed on site or sent home with the children.

Birthday Cakes

Families are welcome to send a cake in with their child to celebrate their birthday. Please ensure there is enough for approximately twenty children to share.

You may not send anything in containing nuts. Please ask us for any other allergies or dietary restrictions in your child's group.

Written in accordance with the Early Years Foundation Stage Statutory Framework 2024 sections 3.55 - 3.56: Food and Drink, Food and Drink Facilities.