

## Healthy Lunchbox and Snack Policy

At Great Ouse Primary Academy, we aim to educate our children with the skills, knowledge and understanding to enable them to make informed healthy lifestyle choices. To do that effectively we need to work in partnership with parents and carers in securing the best for every child.

### Aims:

- To ensure children have a suitable midday meal that sustains and prepares them for the afternoon learning.
- To provide a safe, healthy and appealing eating environment for pupils bringing in packed lunches and ensure that free, fresh drinking water is available at all times.
- To help children develop an understanding of healthy eating.
- To promote the School Food Trust guidelines and national standards for healthier eating.
- To support parents and carers in providing a healthy packed lunch that meets the same standards as food provided in school dinners and abide by the regulations of the British Nutrition Foundation.

### Guidelines:

- The following guidelines for lunchbox contents comes from the statutory guidelines for school provided meals. This ensures equality of entitlement for all children.

### The recommended contents of a healthy lunch box are:

- A good portion of starchy food e.g. bread, crackers, pasta or rice salad.
- Plenty of fruit and vegetables e.g. an apple, orange, banana, carrot sticks, small box of raisins or any other fruit or vegetable
- A portion of milk or dairy food e.g. yoghurt.
- A drink e.g. a small carton of milk, juice, squash or a bottle of water.
- One small biscuit - ***This is equivalent to a school meal dessert***
- **PLEASE DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD WITH NUTS OR FOOD CONTAINING NUTS AS WE HAVE A NUMBER OF CHILDREN WITH ALLERGIES**

### Packed lunches should not include:

- Chocolate bars, crisps or sweets
- Fizzy drinks.
- Hot food (due to health and safety guidelines)
- Unhealthy Cereal bars such as Coco Pops or Rice Crispies

**Monitoring and evaluation:**

We fully respect individual parent's food choices for their children and understand that there are many different needs and tastes. However, if lunchbox contents **regularly** fall short of the expectations in this policy, we will send a reminder home to parents. We want to work with parents to educate our children about healthy dietary choices so that the children, through the understanding of a balanced diet, will develop a greater appreciation of a healthy lifestyle.

**Healthy Snacks**

All children in YR and KS1 receive a free piece of fruit or vegetable everyday as part of the Government's School Fruit and Vegetable Scheme.

As children move up into KS2, if they wish to have a break time snack, they are required to bring in something from home.

Healthy snacks can include:

- Fruit
- Vegetables
- Dried fruits
- Cereal bars (no nuts)
- Crackers
- PLEASE DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD WITH CHOCOLATE BARS, UNHEALTHY CEREAL BARS EG COCO POPS OR RICE CRISPIES AND CRISPS OR SWEETS

**Reviewed September 2021**

**Next Review September 2024**