Brookfield Community Primary School

'Many hearts make a school'

Safer Eating Policy

Updated: 01.10.2026

Review Date: 01.09.2027

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Our School Mission Statement

'Many hearts make a school'.

At Brookfield Community Primary School, our children, families, staff and governors all work together to ensure that everyone fulfils their potential. With the children being at the heart of our school, we strive to provide a rewarding experience for all.

Statutory Guidance

This policy follows the Department for Education's *Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Statutory Framework for Group and School-Based Providers*, alongside the official EYFS Food Safety guidance. These requirements support the safety and wellbeing of children aged four and five.

Safe Eating Procedures

- All Reception children will sit down while eating snack and will be taught to remain seated, eat carefully and avoid talking with food in their mouths.
- The class teacher will read a story during snack time, while a **paediatric first-aid-qualified teaching assistant** actively supervises the children and monitors their safety.
- Children will remain within the sight and hearing of staff at all times.
- A designated member of staff will prepare and cut food appropriately before it is served, following current choking-prevention guidance.
- Small, round foods, such as grapes and cherry tomatoes, will be cut lengthways and into quarters.
- Hard fruits and vegetables will be prepared appropriately, and foods that present a choking risk for children under five, including whole nuts and raw jelly cubes, will not be provided.

- Staff will check dietary requirements, allergies and intolerances, and follow individual healthcare plans where applicable.
- Staff will maintain appropriate food hygiene when preparing and serving snacks.
- In the event of choking, staff will respond immediately using their paediatric first-aid training, seek emergency assistance where necessary, and inform parents or carers and record the incident in line with school procedures.

Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed every three years by the Designated Safeguarding Lead to ensure it remains compliant with current legislation, statutory guidance and best practice.

The effectiveness of the policy will be monitored through:

- Safeguarding monitoring and reporting processes.
- Staff training and professional development.
- Feedback from pupils, parents/carers and staff where appropriate.

The Headteacher is responsible for approving this policy and ensuring its effective implementation throughout the school.