

Policy on Food and Drink

Where children are provided with meals, drinks and snacks, these must be healthy, balanced and nutritious. Those responsible for the preparation and handling of food must be competent to do so.

Fresh water must be available at all times. Room Leaders will ensure that children have access to fresh drinking water throughout the day.

We will notify OFSTED of any poisoning affecting two or more children looked after on the premises. Failure to comply with this requirement without reasonable excuse is an offence.

If we have reason to believe that any child is suffering from a notifiable disease identified in the Public Health (Infection Diseases) Regulations 1988, we will inform OFSTED. We will act on the advice given by the Health Protection Agency's list of notifiable diseases provided on the EYFS CD ROM.

We will obtain, record and act on information from parents regarding a child's dietary needs.

We are aware of our responsibilities under the hygiene legislation including registration with the Local Authority Environmental Health Department.

Food hygiene matters are included in staff inductions and ongoing food hygiene training is available to staff.

Parents providing packed lunches will be informed about what can be stored and about appropriate food content.

Food

Young children often have strong preferences for one type of food or another and may show signs of an allergy towards certain foods.

To ensure that food meets the requirements of the maximum number of children and that it is of the highest quality the following procedures should be followed:

- All food will be checked at the time of use to ensure that it is not past its use by (or best before) date.*
- No food with nuts or traces of nuts will be used.*

Any other specific dietary requirements are a matter for agreement between the nursery and the parents.

Milk

The welfare food scheme enables children under five to receive free of charge 189ml of milk each day they attend approved day care facilities for two hours or more.

Busy Bees has applied for and received approval to participate in this scheme in order that children in our care may benefit from it.

Water

- Each child will bring their own water bottle into school each day, which we will refill as necessary throughout the day.

- *Children will be assisted in obtaining a drink of water should they need help.*
- *Children will be made aware that water is available at all times, and they may help themselves at any time if they wish for a drink.*
- *The intake of water by children will be monitored for abnormally high or low intake.*

Busy Bees is aware of reports that some children behave in an increasingly hyperactive manner after drinking orange juice and other similar products which contain artificial additives designated by E numbers. We therefore only offer milk and water throughout the day.

Parents are made aware of this policy when first applying for a child to come to the nursery.

*This policy was adopted by the managers and staff, and updated on 17th March 2025
Signed on behalf of Busy Bees Nursery School.*

“Our setting is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and adults at all times and expects everybody working within this setting to share this commitment”

