



Policy:	Nutrition/ Healthy Eating Policy
Date Ratified:	May 2024
Signature: (Chair of Governors)	
Signature: (Headteacher)	
Shared with staff?	Yes (See staff meeting minutes)
Review Date:	May 2027

Introduction

As a school we are passionate about health and encouraging young people to become healthy, confident individuals who can make positive decisions for life. We recognise that learners spend around a third of their time at school between the ages of four and sixteen. The food and drink opportunities provided in school can make a positive contribution towards giving children and young people a nutritious balanced diet and encourage them to develop positive behaviours for life.

This policy will enable learners to link the positive effects that good nutrition can have on health and wellbeing.

At Magor CIW Primary School we are committed to encouraging our learners to lead healthy lifestyles. We believe that healthy learners will be able to take full advantage of the educational opportunities that the school provides. The partnership of home and school is critical in shaping young people, and their future health.

Rationale

A poor diet is a major contributing factor to increasing levels of childhood obesity and associated health problems. In response to these concerns, the Welsh Government has produced [Healthy Weight: Healthy Wales](#), a long term strategy which outlines the vital role schools play as healthy settings to positively influence future life outcomes.

[The Healthy Eating in Schools \(Nutritional Standards and Requirements\) \(Wales\) 2013 Regulations](#) sets out to improve the nutritional standards of food and drink provided in schools in Wales.

The [Wellbeing of Future Generations \(Wales\) Act](#) has at its core an intention to improve the health, social, economic, environmental, and cultural wellbeing of Wales. Promoting nutrition will be a key component of achieving the ambitions within this Act.

Aim

The aim of this Nutrition policy is to provide a 'whole school approach' to healthy eating and hydration by equipping learners with the knowledge and skills to establish and maintain life-long active lifestyles and positive eating habits. We aim to ensure that nutrition becomes integral to the overall value system of the school and a common thread of best practice that runs through the curriculum and the whole school community.

Objectives

- To ensure that all provision related to nutrition provided for learners throughout the school day are consistent with the curriculum, appropriate national guidance and regulation and that mixed messages are avoided.
- To ensure that the school takes up opportunities to be involved in any local and national initiatives relating to nutrition.
- To ensure food, drink and snack provision is compliant with [The Healthy Eating in Schools \(Nutritional Standards and Requirements\) \(Wales\) Regulations 2013](#).
- To work in partnership with School Meal Providers to ensure that consistent messages about nutritional standards and healthy lifestyles are given to our learners.

- To offer a range of inclusive safe practical cookery activities to continually develop essential skills and a lifelong love of food and cooking.
- To ensure food and drink provision is healthy, nutritious, affordable and attractively presented to help make the healthy choice an easy choice for learners. This includes ensuring that healthy options do not run out and are displayed at an optimum level for all learners to see and reach.
- To ensure all learners have access to fresh, free drinking water throughout the day and understand the benefits of hydration on health, wellbeing and concentration.

We recognise that all learners have rights under the 54 Articles of the United Nations Convention of the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). The rights below underpin and shape our health and wellbeing curriculum and school policy:

UNCRC Article	An inclusive health and wellbeing curriculum that...
Article 6 the right to life and to grow up to be healthy	Develops knowledge and skills to identify and develop positive informed behaviours for a healthy lifestyle.
Article 13 the right to have information	Supports learners to understand the factors that affect physical health and wellbeing, such as a nutritious balanced diet.
Article 24 and 28 the right to nutritious food, clean water and education	Provides experiences that enables learners to become healthy, confident individuals and opportunities to choose, prepare and eat a range of foods that can support a nutritious balanced diet.

The Curriculum

Developing physical health and wellbeing has lifelong benefits and our Health and Wellbeing Curriculum will ensure that:

- Learning about nutrition enables learners to develop the [four purposes](#) of the Curriculum for Wales.
- Learners are taught to understand the relationship between nutrition and short- and long-term health benefits.
- The impact of sleep on mental health & wellbeing is addressed within the teaching opportunities in the curriculum.
- Learners are provided with consistent key messages for good oral health.
- Opportunities for cross curricular links are explored and developed.
- All teaching and learning resources reflect current local and national guidance.

- The [Food Competencies](#) are explored, include the themes of: Diet and Health, Consumer Awareness, Cooking, Food Safety and Active Lifestyles. (These apply to young people aged between 5-16+ years).
- Learners are given opportunities to choose, prepare and eat a range of foods that can support a healthy balanced diet using the Eatwell Guide.
<https://www.nhsdirect.wales.nhs.uk/lifestylewellbeing/theeatwellplate>.
- Learners acquire the basic skills in planning and preparing food to enjoy a nutritious balanced diet.
- Learners will be given the opportunity to examine the influences of food choices, including the effects of the media through advertising, marketing, labelling, and packaging of food.
- Learners are given the opportunity to learn food provenance and its impact on the environment e.g. growing, farming, transportation.
- As part of the curriculum, learners are encouraged to actively participate in growing fruit and vegetables in the school grounds/ local allotments.
- The school aims to promote seasonal and local food produce.
- Learners are provided with consistent key messages for good oral health.

The Informal Curriculum

Our school recognises the significant impact of *the informal curriculum* on the personal, social and emotional education of learners as well as their physical health and wellbeing. Therefore, nutrition themes will be promoted through the informal curriculum which encompasses the values and attitudes promoted within the school, the physical environment and setting of the school. (See Appendix 2)

Leadership and Communication

- The governing body will nominate a committee to take specific responsibility for the Nutrition policy (**Pupil Centred**)
- The **Wellbeing Warriors** are actively involved with the development and implementation of the Nutrition policy.
- The Senior Management Team will ensure that there is adequate training and resources for staff involved in the delivery of the aims and objectives of the school's Nutrition Policy.
- The Senior Management Team and governors will monitor progress at regular intervals
- The policy will be reviewed **annually** to take account of national and local initiatives and resources relating to nutrition.

The Governing Body

All teaching and non-teaching staff to ensure that they:

- Act as positive role-models for learners by drinking water and eating nutritious food around children
- Ensure consistent messages are provided/ mixed messages are avoided in relation to diet, oral health.
- Support implementation of the school policy.
- Deliver effective nutrition education as agreed in this Policy.
- Encourage participation in local and national initiatives.
- Promote balanced food choices at lunchtimes eg Healthy lunchboxes
- Use non-food rewards such as praise, house points etc.

Family and Community Involvement

As a school we will ensure a whole school approach is taken to improve the wellbeing and equity of opportunity to all learners in relation to nutrition. We aim to involve all members of the school community in our commitment. This will be achieved by:

- Encouraging the provision of nutritious food and snacks from home through the curriculum, by giving information to parents and carers, and in partnership with key community and health agencies.
- Involving learners in promoting nutritionally balanced eating within the school community and have a role in decision making (planning and developing actions, policy development / review).
- Ensuring families are made aware of community-based programmes to support children's health and support for families in food poverty.
- Supporting community focused opportunities, including Food and Fun, to use the school grounds and facilities.
- Supporting the provision of out of school hours learning cookery club / gardening club for learners, parents and carers and wider community members.

The role of parents and carers

We ask that Parents/Carers endeavour to:

- Support the policy.
- Provide nutritious packed lunches if food is brought in from home.
- Apply for their child's Free School Meals if entitled to do so and apply for the Universal FSM as they are offered.
- Provide fresh fruit and/or vegetables for snack.
- Provide a clean drinking water bottle for fresh, plain water only.
- Support local and national initiatives.

The role and responsibilities of learners

We ask learners to:

- To develop their own routines to maintain personal care and hygiene where nutrition and hydration are concerned.
- Attempt to make good choices and consider nutrition when choice is available.
- Drink plenty of water to keep hydrated throughout the school day.
- Take opportunities to participate in learner surveys and Learner Voice groups.

Equality Statement

This school/setting recognises that people have different needs, requirements and goals and we will work actively against all forms of discrimination by promoting good relations and mutual respect within our community and between Learners, parents, staff, governors/management committee members and partners.

We will also work to create equal access to support, for everyone, irrespective of ethnic origin, sex, age, marital status, sexual orientation, disability, gender reassignment, religious beliefs or non-belief, use of Welsh, BSL or any other language, nationality, responsibility for any dependents or any other reason which cannot be shown to be justified.

Monitoring, evaluation and dissemination

- Implementation of this policy will be monitored by the Headteacher and members of the Governing Body
- It will be ratified every two years but reviewed annually or earlier if necessary
- Wellbeing Warriors PLT are actively involved with the implementation and review of this policy.
- Support local and national initiatives.
- Aspects of this Policy will be replicated in the School Prospectus, Hwb+, shared areas on the school network and staff handbook.
- Parents may request a paper copy of the Policy from the school.

The following members of the school community were consulted on the development of this policy:

- Senior Leadership team
- Wellbeing Warriors
- Governors / Link Governor
- Catering Manager
- Wellbeing Lead