



HAWRIDGE & CHOLESBURY CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL

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Dear Parents and Carers

Lunchtime Arrangements

As I am sure your children will have told you, we modified our lunchtime arrangements towards the end of last term. The reasons for this were various but largely because we want the children to have a pleasant, social experience, supporting each other and taking on responsibilities where they can.

How does the seating plan work?

Children in KS1 and KS2 sit on tables in mixed ages/classes. Windmills sit in their class group. The class teachers select the groups for each table and this is done in discussion with the children. We aim that they will have at least one friend on the table with them, but this may not always be possible. The groups will change each half term and children are not expected to sit in set seats on the table. Every day tables are awarded tables points for showing good manners and table etiquette. At the end of the week the winning table gets to celebrate with a special reward.

What about their drinks?

Each table has at least one water jug and a set of plastic cups. Table monitors offer water to children, and older children help fill the cups when needed. Some parents may also wish to provide an additional drink of water, squash or juice in their child's lunch box. No fizzy, energy or protein drinks please.

Where can my child go to for help?

Each table has an allocated staff member to support them if needed.

What if my child does not like it?

Adults are talking to the children all the time about lunchtimes and gaining their feedback. The comments that I have received have all been extremely positive with children saying they prefer the current arrangement to our previous routine. Initially, some children commented that they would like to be more involved in choosing who sits with them and for there to be regular opportunities to change tables. If your child is worried about anything at lunchtime, it is important that they talk to someone at school about it. All the children have identified a 'hand of five' (five people they feel safe talking to – one for each finger) and are encouraged to use this. Messages are communicated between lunchtime staff and the class teacher as needed.

Kind regards

Mrs R Phillips
Headteacher