

IMPORTANT INFORMATION: PLEASE READ

Dear Parent/Guardian

PRIMARY SCHOOL FREE BREAKFAST

Background

The Welsh Assembly Government made a commitment to provide for all children of primary school age registered in maintained primary schools in Wales to have a free, healthy breakfast at school each day.

This scheme is intended to improve the health and concentration of children to assist in the raising of standards of learning and attainment, and will seek to involve parents / guardians. It is not intended to replace breakfast already provided by parents/ guardians, but to allow all those children, who for whatever reason have not had breakfast at home, to have one in school.

Planning

We are considering introducing this initiative in VICTORIA PRIMARY SCHOOL and to assist with this decision we need to have an idea of the likely take-up. This is a vital part of the planning process.

To help you decide whether you would want your child to attend the sessions we have enclosed a question and answer sheet, which will give you an idea of how these sessions may operate.

What do you have to do?

If you would like your child(ren) to attend the breakfast sessions when they start (sometime during the SPRING / SUMMER Term) you must complete the attached form and return to the school by Monday 28th January 2008. If we do not receive a response we will assume that you do not want your child(ren) to attend the breakfast sessions. Please note a free breakfast is not a right. Schools can refuse entry to any children on the grounds of unacceptable behaviour.

More information will follow, once we have an idea of the likely take-up for the breakfast sessions.

Yours sincerely

Tina Taylor

PRIMARY SCHOOL FREE BREAKFAST REPLY FORM

Please complete and return to the school by Monday January 28th

Child's name:			Class:	
Attendance				
Please indicate which days your child will be attending the breakfast session				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri
Special Dietary requirements				
Does your child have any food allergies/intolerance?			Yes	No
If yes, please provide details				
Other information				
Please provide details of any other information you feel relevant to your child's attendance at the breakfast session				
Contact details in case of an emergency				
Name:			Phone number:	
Relationship to child:				
Name:			Phone number	
Relationship to child:				
I confirm that I would like my child to attend the breakfast sessions when they start.				
Signature of Parent/Guardian:			Date:	

PRIMARY SCHOOL FREE BREAKFAST INITIATIVE

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What time will the session operate?

The Welsh Assembly Government has issued detailed guidance to schools covering the operation of the breakfast session. All schools will have the flexibility, within these guidelines, to decide how they provide and run the free breakfast sessions. This guidance recommends that:

- Breakfast provision should not normally begin earlier than 8am
- All children should register on arrival
- The breakfast session should finish at least 10 minutes prior to the start of the school day
- No children should be admitted less than 10 minutes before the close of the breakfast session

At Victoria, we aim to provide breakfasts between 8.15 and 8.45. Parents will drop off pupils at the canteen between 8.15 and 8.35 , where they will be given breakfast and supervised.

Infants will be taken to their respective classes at 8.45 and juniors will go to the school yard at 8.45am

What breakfast will my child(ren) receive?

The breakfast on offer must be healthy and nutritionally balanced. There are 4 food groups: Drinks or milk products; Cereals - not sugar coated; fruit; breads.

A typical breakfast could be:

- cereal with milk and chopped fruit, a piece of toast and a drink or
- toast, fruit juice and yoghurt.

Who will supervise the breakfast session?

It will be for the school to decide who will supervise the breakfast session. All adults involved in the breakfast session must be cleared by the Criminal Records Bureau before working with children.

At Victoria, our cook will prepare the food and some of the lunchtime supervisors will supervise the children depending on the take up.

Will I have to pay for the breakfast session?

No – the breakfast and the supervision of your child(ren) during the breakfast session will be **free**.

How much notice do I need to give to vary the arrangements for my child(ren) to attend the breakfast session?

Ideally a term in advance, but a minimum of 1 week, obviously the more notice the better. If your child(ren) arrives to have a breakfast without giving prior notice they cannot be guaranteed to receive a free breakfast, although there will be discretion for the school to make some exceptions if there is food available.

Will the children be in mixed age groups for breakfast?

Yes – attendance at the free breakfast session is open to all children attending this school.

Where can I find out more about the initiative?

The Welsh Assembly Government has set up a website, which provides more information. The address is <http://www.learning.wales.gov.uk/breakfast/whats-new-e.htm>. A mailbox has also been set up for you to make your views known to the Welsh Assembly Government. The address is Breakfastinfo@wales.gsi.gov.uk.

IF YOU ARE READING THIS ON THE WEBSITE AND ARE INTERESTED,
PLEASE CALL AT THE OFFICE AND COMPLETE A REPLY FORM ASAP.

T.TAYLOR HEAD TEACHER JANUARY 2008