



**BROUGHTON MANOR
PREPARATORY SCHOOL**

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Policy reviewed by: Viv Thompson Director of Education & Safeguarding

Signature: *Viv Thompson*

Version: v9.0

Policy actioned from: 1st September 2026 **Review date:** 08.2027

Please note: 'Provider' refers to Chatsworth Schools; Nursery or Setting refers to the nursery & 'parents' refers to parents, guardians and carers.

POLICY AMENDMENT

Date	Key Amendments	Version Number	Reviewed by
01/09/24	Policy approved for Nurseries	v7.0	VT
01/09/25	Policy reviewed	v8.0	VT
01/09/26	Policy reviewed	v9.0	VT

Nutrition and Mealtimes Policy

At our nursery we believe that mealtimes should be happy, social occasions for children and staff alike. We promote shared, enjoyable positive interactions at these times. We are committed to offering children healthy, nutritious and balanced meals and snacks, which meet individual needs and requirements.

We ensure that:

- Balanced and healthy meals and snacks daily are provided for children attending a full day at the nursery.
- Menus are planned in advance and in line with example menu and guidance produced by the Department for Education. These are rotated regularly, reflect cultural diversity and variation and are displayed for children and parents to view.
- All allergens are displayed alongside the menus to show the contents of each meal.
- We provide nutritious food at all snack and mealtimes, avoiding large quantities of fat, sugar, salt and artificial additives, preservatives and colourings.
- Menus include at least 5 servings of fresh fruit and vegetables per day.
- Children are occasionally involved in menu planning.
- Only milk and water are provided as drinks to promote oral health. Fresh drinking water is always available and accessible. It is frequently offered to children and babies and intake is monitored. In hot weather, staff will encourage children to drink more water to keep them hydrated.
- Individual dietary requirements are respected. We gather information from parents regarding their children's dietary needs, including any special dietary requirements, preferences and food allergies that a child has and any special health requirements, before a child starts or joins the nursery. We urge families to consult with a doctor before removing foods from their child's diet. The school maintains an Allergy Policy which the nursery adheres to.
- Where appropriate, we will carry out a risk assessment in the case of allergies and work alongside parents to put into place an individual dietary plan for their child.
- We give careful consideration to seating to avoid cross contamination of food from child to child. Where appropriate, an adult will sit with children during meals to ensure safety and minimise risks. Where appropriate, discussions will also take place with children about allergies, potential risks and the dangers of sharing certain foods.
- Staff show sensitivity in providing for children's diets and allergies. They do not use a child's diet or allergy as a label for the child, or make a child feel singled out because of her/his diet or allergy. Cultural differences in eating habits are respected.
- Staff set a good example and are encouraged to sit and eat with the children and show good table manners. Meal and snack times are organised so that they are social occasions in which children and staff participate in small groups. During meals and snack times children are encouraged to use their manners and conversation is encouraged.
- Staff use meal and snack times to help children to develop independence through making choices, serving food and drinks and feeding themselves.
- Staff support children to make healthy choices and understand why we eat healthily.

- Where possible, we provide foods from the diet of each of the children's cultural backgrounds, providing children with familiar foods and introducing them to new ones.
- Any child who shows signs of distress at being faced with a meal he/she does not like will have his/her food removed without any fuss. If a child does not finish his/her first course, he/she will still be given a helping of dessert.
- Children not on special diets are encouraged to eat a small piece of everything.
- Children who refuse to eat at the mealtime are offered food later in the day.
- Children are given time to eat at their own pace and not rushed.
- Quantities offered take account of the ages of the children being catered for in line with recommended portion sizes for babies and young children.
- We promote positive attitudes to healthy eating through play and discussions.
- The nursery provides parents with daily written records of feeding routines for all children via Ovivio (formerly Blossom).
- No child is ever left alone when eating or drinking to minimise the risk of choking and the nursery adheres to the observations and recording requirements for the monitoring of eating as stated in the EYFS 2026.
- All food given to the children in the setting is prepared and presented in accordance with the government guidelines and those set out in the EYFS 2026.
- We do not allow parents to bring in cakes on special occasions. We ensure that all food brought in from parents meets the above and health and safety requirements and ingredients that are listed within the Food Information for Consumers (FIR) 2014 and detailed in the allergens policy and procedure.
- All staff who prepare and handle food are competent to do so and receive training in food hygiene which is updated every two years.
- In the very unlikely event of any food poisoning affecting two or more children on the premises, whether or not this may arise from food offered at the nursery, we will inform Ofsted as soon as reasonably practical and in all cases within 14 days. We will also inform the relevant health agencies and follow any advice given.

Interpretation

In this policy, the term "senior manager" means the Nursery Manager and their designated deputies.

This policy applies within all companies, which are wholly owned subsidiaries of Chatsworth Schools Ltd, a company registered in England, registered number 11552579.

The registered office of all companies is St Botolph Building, 138 Houndsditch, London EC3A 7AR. Any enquiries regarding the application of this policy should be sent to the above address.