CATALYST

Quarry Hill Academy

Bradleigh Avenue, Grays, Essex RM17 5UT
Telephone: 01375 373729 E-mail: admin.qha@catrust.org.uk

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have partnered with Ashlyn's to provide high-quality meals for over two years, and we are pleased to say that our school dinners are nutritious and delicious!

However, we are increasingly aware of food waste, and we would like to work in partnership with yourselves and the children to reduce the amount of food that is thrown away each day.

To support with this, our catering staff will now be asking children what they want to go on their plate rather than putting everything on. We will always encourage children to try new things, so we may put a taster on the plate if they are unsure. If they are adamant they won't eat an element of the meal, then we will not put it on the plate as this will inevitably end up in the bin. Alongside this change, we will be running some class assemblies, at an age-appropriate level, to discuss issues around food waste and how we can try to reduce it.

You can also play your part. As you know, school meals can be booked up to 3 weeks in advance on the Arbor app**. It is important that you go through this order with the children, so they are served something they like.** All too regularly we have comments from children implying that the parents have ordered it, but they do not like it and they would prefer the other option, but then it is too late as we have cooked to the numbers ordered.

Please talk to your children about the lunches you are ordering and if there is an element they will not eat, remind them that they can ask not to have this.

By working together, I believe we can reduce food waste which is better for everyone.

Your sincerely,

Mrs S Wakeling
Executive Headteacher

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