

SCHOOL MEALS

Large numbers of children choose to remain at school either to eat a packed lunch or to buy a school meal. A large proportion of those taking school meals are eligible for free meals. The college attempts to operate a system which is attractive enough to keep students on site at lunchtime, rather than have them using local shops or roaming the neighbouring streets.

Supervision at lunchtime is possible using a scheme which is based on the appointment and payment of teachers, and non-teachers, to fill the three grades of post - Midday Manager, Support Staff (teachers) and Midday Supervisors (non teachers). Financial resources, available for supervision and staff free meals as appropriate, are devolved under LMS and are contained in the budget plan.

Teachers at Crown Hills have indicated that they want no part of a contractual, remunerated supervisory role, preferring instead to volunteer their mid-day support on a rota basis. As a result, the system established and developed in recent years is described below.

- Supervision of the dining rooms is to be the responsibility of
 - a. the school meals staff,
 - b. those teaching staff taking a free school meal.
 - c. Midday Supervisors
- Supervision of the dinner queue and access to the dining rooms is under the control of a senior member of staff. Normal “plated” meals, sandwiches, rolls and selections from the salad bar are served on a cafeteria basis in dining room. “Fast food” snacks are available in another.
- The year groups are rotated, so that each year will be first into lunch in sequence - the rotation is on a weekly basis. A rota showing order of entry for different year groups is posted from rooms at the beginning of each term.
- Since lunchtime eating is not allowed anywhere other than in the dining rooms, students with packed lunches will be allowed to use the facilities, though not as a priority, at the supervising teacher's discretion.
- An 'express line' is available for those students who are attending a bona fide lunchtime activity. Entry will only be allowed if a valid pass is presented from the teacher supervising the activity.
- Free dinner passes are issued to eligible students, by form teachers, at morning registration. Passes of absent students are returned to the Office with the registers, where latecomers can collect them when signing in late or, at the start of lunchtime.

- Children may only leave the premises at lunchtime if they have “home dinner” status. Parents should apply for this status using the official form and supply a passport-sized photograph, to be displayed on a dinner pass.
- Children (other than those whose parents have written to the Principal requesting "home dinner" status) should be on the premises during lunchtime, many of them waiting to be called to join the dinner queue; therefore, some system of supervision is essential. A number of supervisory functions are already in operation:
 - Clubs and activities supervised by individual members of staff in pre-arranged locations.
 - Use of the Library for private study supervised by the Librarian.
- The school meals system depends on the possibility of children remaining on the campus. The safety and supervision of children who remain on-site involve issues such as school discipline, accountability