Welsh House Farm Community School and Resource Base

Statutory Compliance & Operations Guide: School Breakfast Clubs

Framework Alignment: UK Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Statutory Framework & DfE School Food Standards. Optimized for Staggered Soft-Start Morning Arrival Models.

■■ CRITICAL AGE-BASED SAFETY BOUNDARIES FOR STAFF

• **Food Preparation Shapes (Under-Fives Only):** Strict statutory requirements to structurally modify food shapes (sliced apples/pears, toast soldiers, no dry finger-food cereal) apply *strictly to children aged 5 and under (Reception)* due to smaller physical airway dimensions.

• **No Eating on the Move (ALL Pupils):** The safety boundary banning consumption while running, walking across playgrounds, climbing stairs, or navigating corridors applies uniformly to *ALL pupils from Reception to Year 6* to mitigate universal choking risks.

1. CEREAL: Allowed ONLY in 'Chill & Chat' Hall

• **Chill & Chat Hall:** Cereal may only be served inside the designated hall where children remain fully seated at tables under active, direct staff supervision.

• **Grab-and-Go Point:** Cereal is strictly prohibited from the grab-and-go selection. It must never be distributed dry in cups, bags, or open bowls to be consumed during hallway transition or playground transit.

• **Preparation Rule:** Ensure dry flakes or hoops are fully softened with milk before consumption to avoid accidental inhalation. Varieties containing whole nuts, clusters, or large pieces of hard dried fruit are completely banned.

2. BREAD & TOAST: Dual-Area Standards

• **Chill & Chat Hall:** Whole slices or halves are permitted for older pupils, but under-5s must still be served soldiers or small quarters. Monitor plates to ensure children do not chew on toast that has become cold, hard, or rubbery.

• **Grab-and-Go Point:** Never serve toast in thick doorstops or large squares. For under-5s, toast must be sliced into long, thin strips (soldiers) so they take manageable bites. Spreads must be applied thinly; avoid thick, sticky layers of peanut butter.

• **The Transit Condition:** While toast can be 'grabbed' at the localized station, pupils must not consume it while actively walking down corridors or moving between school areas.

3. FRUIT POLICIES: High-Risk vs. Low-Risk

• **Apples & Pears (High Risk):** Never serve whole or in thick chunks to under-5s. They must be washed and sliced into thin wedges or long narrow batons. If morning staff lack time to pre-slice them, apples and pears must be completely removed from the self-serve selection for younger cohorts.

• **Bananas & Easy-Peelers (Low Risk):** Perfectly safe to serve whole to all age groups. They break apart into soft, manageable segments. Staff Tip: For Reception children, nick or score the citrus peel to accelerate service without slowing the line.

4. SOFT-START & CLASSROOM DELIVERY ROUTING

The staggered morning 'soft start' directly manages pupil traffic, eliminating chaotic rushes and securing compliance through structured classroom delivery routing:

- **Reception Pupils:** Collect provisions from a localized cart near their classroom thresholds. Pupils transition immediately inside, sit down on carpet, and consume food under the direct sight and hearing of Early Years staff.
- **Key Stage 1 Pupils:** Accompanied directly across the quiet playground by a parent/carer. A uniform 'Carry to Classroom' rule applies. Food items remain uneaten or unpeeled during the walk and are opened only once safely seated in class.
- **Key Stage 2 Pupils:** Navigate playground and climb stairs independently. Eating while moving or climbing stairs is strictly prohibited. All items must be carried intact and consumed only when safely seated inside classrooms.

5. STATUTORY SUPERVISION & SAFETY STANDARDS

- **Sight & Hearing Mandate:** Under EYFS guidelines, children under 5 must remain within the clear sight and hearing of staff at all times while eating. Localized classroom consumption fulfills this requirement seamlessly.
- **Paediatric First Aid:** At least one staff member with a valid, current Paediatric First Aid certificate must be active and immediately accessible on the school floor during all breakfast provision hours.
- **Census Tracking:** All morning attendance must be recorded on daily breakfast registers to fulfill mandatory tracking for the School Census data returns.