Safe Eating Policy

Document title	**Safe eating Policy**
Version	**1.0**
Date of approval	**24 September 2025**

Table of Changes:-				
Date	Name	Page No	Section	Change
September 2025	Gabby Howells	n/a	n/a	No changes

Signed (Chair):	Name: Andy Watson	Date: September 2025
Signed (Head):	Name: Gabby Howells	Date: September 2025
Author: Gabby Howells - Headteacher		
Last Ratified by LGB	Date: September 2025	
Review Date: September 2026	Next Review Date: Sep 2026	

Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) Part 1: EIA Screening

Policies, Procedures or Practices:	Safe Eating Policy	DATE:	September 2025
EIA CARRIED OUT BY:	Gabby Howells	EIA APPROVED BY:	Gabby Howells

Groups that may be affected:

Are there concerns that the policy could have a different impact on any of the following groups? (please tick the relevant boxes)	Existing or potential adverse impact	Existing or potential for a positive impact
Age (young people, the elderly; issues surrounding protection and welfare, recruitment, training, pay, promotion)		
Disability (physical and mental disability, learning difficulties; issues surrounding access to buildings, curriculum and communication)		
Gender reassignment		
Marriage and civil partnership		
Pregnancy and maternity		
Race		
Religion and belief (practices of worship, religious or cultural observance, including non-belief)		
Gender identity		
Sexual orientation		

Any adverse impacts are explored in a Full Impact Assessment.

Document title	**Safe eating Policy**
Version	**1.0**
Date of approval	**24 September 2025**

Contents:

Statement of intent

1. Healthy, balanced meals
2. Food safety and hygiene
3. Allergy and dietary management
4. Safe Eating Practices
5. Responding to Incidents
6. Partnership with Families
7. Staff Roles & Responsibilities
8. Monitoring and review

Document title	**Safe eating Policy**
Version	**1.0**
Date of approval	**24 September 2025**

Statement of intent

At Hanham Primary Federation we recognise that we must ensure that all mealtimes and snack times are safe, hygienic, inclusive, and promote healthy eating habits.

We understand our responsibility to ensure that each child has healthy food choices and is kept safe when eating.

This policy has been developed in conjunction with relevant guidance and legislation: The EYFS Statutory Framework 2025 and the Early Years Foundation Stage nutrition guidance 2025.

Through the implementation of this policy we will provide:

- **Quality and consistency**, so that every child receives the best care.
- **Partnership working** between practitioners and parents.
- **Equality of opportunity** and anti-discriminatory practice, ensuring that every child is included and supported.

Healthy, Balanced Meals

All meals, snacks, and drinks provided will be healthy, balanced, and nutritious.

Fresh drinking water will always be available and accessible.

Menus will reflect cultural diversity and encourage positive attitudes towards food.

Food Safety & Hygiene

Food must be prepared hygienically and in line with current food safety guidance.

Staff handling food must be trained in food hygiene.

Equipment for safe storage and preparation must be available.

Allergy & Dietary Management

Information about allergies, intolerances, and dietary needs will be obtained before a child starts and kept up to date.

Clear systems will be in place so staff know which children have dietary needs.

Allergy action plans (where applicable) will be agreed with parents and health professionals.

Food provided will always meet each child's specific dietary requirements.

Safe Eating Practices

Children must always be within sight and hearing of staff while eating.

At least one staff member present must hold a valid Paediatric First Aid certificate.

Food must be prepared in ways that reduce the risk of choking (e.g. grapes cut lengthways).

Children should sit in age-appropriate chairs or stools, ideally in a calm eating space free from distractions.

Staff should sit or stand facing children to monitor for choking, food sharing, or allergic reactions.

Responding to Incidents

Any choking incident requiring intervention must be recorded and reported to parents on the same day.

Records of incidents will be reviewed to identify patterns and reduce risks.

Cases of food poisoning affecting two or more children must be reported to Ofsted within 14 days.

Partnership with Families

Parents will be consulted about their child's dietary needs.

Staff will not make assumptions based on age; feeding will be tailored to developmental needs.

Families are encouraged to share cultural practices around food.

Staff Roles & Responsibilities

The Headteacher ensures this policy is followed and reviewed annually.

The SENCO supports children with dietary or additional needs.

All staff must remain vigilant during mealtimes and follow agreed procedures.

Monitoring and Review

This policy will be reviewed annually, or sooner if there are significant updates to the EYFS statutory framework or nutrition guidance.

Any changes made to this policy will be communicated to all relevant stakeholders.

All members of staff directly involved with the EYFS will be required to familiarise themselves with all processes and procedures outlined in this policy as part of their induction and daily practice.

The next scheduled review date for this policy is **30/9/26**