



SHARPS COPSE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Our ref: SCPN Fruit & Veg Snack – Sept 2023

18th September 2023

Dear Parents & Carers of Years R – 6 children

I am writing to inform you about an update to the children's daily fruit & veg snack provision; we continue to provide this support **free of charge** with an excellent uptake by children happy to take part.

This government scheme was initially introduced for our younger children in **Years R, 1 & 2** to encourage them to try different varieties of fruit and veg helping them to develop their tastes and introducing them to their **5-a-day**. We as a school made the financial decision to support and include our older children in **Years 3, 4, 5 & 6** so that all children are being treated fairly and equitably. This scheme has now been running successfully for a good few years, with one interruption of service during the pandemic and was, I'm pleased to say re-introduced again in April this year.

We've had a few concerns from parents whose children don't like or won't eat fruit or veg, and are worried their child(ren) will go hungry or go without – in response to these concerns we've requested that they are provided with **dry crackers** eg, cream crackers or **fruit/veg** from home which they know will be eaten by their child(ren); if providing **grapes** that they are cut in half **length-wise** for children under the **age of 7** to prevent choking. We will continue to encourage **all** children to try by offering the daily fruit & veg choices, but won't force the issue if they refuse.

Please can I remind everyone that we do have **children** and **staff** at the school that have **severe** food allergies to **nuts, kiwi** and **strawberries**, and politely request that snacks are **not** sent to school containing any of these elements.

We already hold details for children who have dietary needs, but if there have been any changes let us know by calling us or emailing adminoffice@sharpscopse.hants.sch.uk – please include your **child's name** in the **subject heading** providing us with information about any changes and we'll get back to you for more details.

If you have any concerns or queries about the content of this letter, please don't hesitate to call me on the above number where I'll be more than happy to speak with you, or email to the above address.

Yours sincerely

L. Setterfield (Mrs)
Business Manager