

Key Information

Howes Primary School

The cost of a school dinner is £2.15 per day, payable weekly in advance. Payment can be made by cash at the school office or SimsPay. Credit for dinners paid but not taken are carried forward to the following week.

If your child has a doctor's or dental appointment and will be arriving late, it is essential that you notify us by 9.30am to ensure that a school meal is ordered. Similarly, if you will be collecting your child for an appointment and a school meal will not be required please let us know. If the meal is not cancelled it will be charged.

Packed Lunches

Children may bring in healthy packed lunches, provided that the containers used are secure and clearly marked with the child's name. Children have thirty minutes to eat at mid-day. We feel that very few would take longer than that for a meal at home, so please ensure that lunch boxes are not overloaded. No cans, fizzy drinks or glass bottles are to be brought to school.

Healthy snacks and Drinks

Under the Fruit in School scheme children in Early Years and KS1 are entitled to a piece of fruit a day free of charge. This is given as a playtime snack. Children are encouraged to drink water and can fill water bottles from fountains throughout the day. Milk is available for all children up until their 5th birthday. All children in Reception receive a free water bottle when they start school at Howes. Replacement water bottles are available to buy from the school office for £2.

Sweets, chocolate, chewing gum, etc are not permitted in school.

Due to food allergies, Howes primary is a nut free school.



Working with Parents

Parental Involvement

We encourage parents to keep in close contact with school. Newsletters are emailed out on alternate Fridays during term time to keep everyone up to date with what is happening in and around the school, so please take time to read these. We also keep parents fully informed about the work of the school and the progress of their children, and hope that you will take every possible opportunity to learn about the curriculum we offer.

During the autumn and spring terms there are opportunities to make appointments for a formal and confidential meeting with your child's class teacher to discuss progress. However, parents are always welcome to arrange to meet staff after school if there is an issue or concern they wish to discuss. There is plenty of opportunity for you to share in the educational and social partnership we endeavour to promote - you will get as much out of the partnership as you are prepared to put in!

Voluntary Helpers

We are committed to forging good relationships between home and school and should they wish to do so, parents are encouraged to help in school on a regular basis. If you are interested in helping, please see your child's class teacher. Examples of activities that parents might like to get involved in include cooking, reading, sewing and learning games, or to undertake the upkeep of books. In addition, if you have a particular talent or skill that you wish to share we would love to hear from you!

We prefer Nursery and Reception children to become accustomed to school routine before parents help in their immediate area, as too early an appearance can be unsettling for them.

Friends of Howes

All parents are automatically members of the Association of Friends of Howes School. At the Annual General Meeting during the school year there will be a warm welcome for all new members and an enthusiastic response to those who would like to join the Committee and help in the organisation of social, educational and fund raising activities. Events organised by the Friends of Howes benefit all children in the school, so please give them your support.

Governors

Governors can play an increasingly important role in the life of the school, taking more and more important decisions on your behalf. Parents have the opportunity to elect Parent Governors every four years, or as a vacancy occurs and when the time comes we will send out further details.

The Home School Agreement

We believe it is essential to have strong links between home, school and the community. All children, parents and teachers are asked to sign a Home School Agreement that outlines the intentions of all three parties.

Contacting Parents

It is essential for us to have the name and number of a person we can contact if your child is taken ill or has an accident at school and we are unable to get in touch with you. Please inform the school as soon as any of your contact details change so that we can amend our records accordingly. We must also have an email address for correspondence.