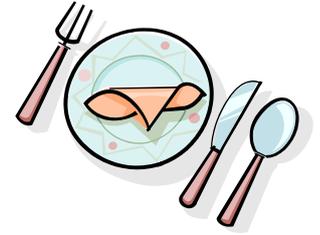




Ballakermeen High School Information Sheet



Lunch Time

This information sheet has been produced as a result of parent feedback at the Ballakermeen High School Association

Why are there two lunch periods?

There are a lot of students at Ballakermeen so to make sure there is time for everybody to get their lunch we have split students into 2 groups. Years 7, 9 & 11 get their lunch from 12-12.50pm and Years 8, 10 & Sixth Form get their lunch from 12.50-1.40pm. When you get to Year 10 you will be allowed to go out of school to one of the local shops for lunch if you wish.

How do the canteen queues work?

There are 3 queues. Queue 1 is for chips, burgers and chicken nuggets, Queue 2 is for the daily meal deal which includes a main meal, a dessert and a drink and Queue 3 is for sandwiches, baked potatoes and salads. If you know what you would like for lunch before you get to the canteen it will certainly help you to get your meal quicker.

What is the daily meal deal?

The meal deal changes from day to day. Examples of the meal served include curry, lasagne and shepherds pie and desserts include marbled sponge cake with custard, fruit salad or fruit crumble. A vegetarian option is available as part of each daily meal deal. Be sure to check the notice boards around the canteen for details of the meals on offer.

How long will I have to wait in a queue before I get my lunch?

The average waiting time for each queue is around 7 minutes. This may vary by a few minutes depending on a number of things such as the weather or the daily special on offer!

How do I pay for my lunch?

All meals are paid for by smartcard. You can put money on your smartcard using the payment options available (see separate information sheet 'Smartcards'). When you get to the till in the canteen tell the dinner lady what you would like to eat and hand over your smartcard, she will then swipe it through the till and deduct the cost of your meal. The whole process of buying your meal, from start to finish, takes around 20-30 seconds!

I want to bring a packed lunch, what do I do?

You are very welcome to bring in a packed lunch from home if you wish. Packed lunches are eaten in the dining hall so you can still eat with your friends if they have a school meal.

What do I do if I want to go to a club, will there be time for lunch?

Most lunch time clubs will let you bring a sandwich or packed lunch to eat during the activity. Other clubs run for half the period meaning you will have at least 25 minutes to go to the canteen. Check with your club organiser to find out what the meal arrangements for lunch time clubs are.

What do I do with any rubbish once I've finished my meal?

There are bins located around the canteen. It is your responsibility to put any empty plates, packaging, knives and forks into the bins and wipe up any spillages so that other people can use the table when you leave. Please leave your dining table as you would expect to find it when you arrive.

Do I have to eat in the canteen?

Yes. The only time you may eat outside of the canteen is if you are attending a lunchtime club or activity; this only includes sandwiches or salads. Under no circumstances will you be allowed to take hot food out of the canteen at any time.

I have my lunch at home, what should I do?

If you go home for dinner you will need to ask your parents to contact the school to give permission for you to go off site. This is so that we know where you are in case of a fire alarm.

Is there anything else I should know?

- You are allowed to bring your bags and coats into the dining hall; however, they must be stored under your dining table so that they don't trip people up.
- It is important that once you collect your meal you take it straight into the dining room. Please do not wait for your friends as people will be moving about with hot food; your friends will meet you in the dining room.
- Chilled water is available from the water coolers in the dining room - these may be accessed during break or lunch periods and are free to use.