



## **Kilcoskan NS Healthy Eating Policy**

### **Aim:**

The aim of this policy is to ensure that Kilcoskan NS pupils eat a healthy, well-balanced lunch consistent with the school's promotion of a healthy lifestyle for all its pupils. By encouraging healthy eating patterns informed by established, evidence backed biological and nutritional science, we help children to be healthy now and encourage good habits for lifelong health.

### **Healthy Lunch Suggestions:**

We encourage children to choose from the following foods regularly:

- Brown Bread / scones
- Raisins
- Pitta bread
- Healthy yogurts
- Fruit
- Milk
- Raw vegetables / salads
- Water
- Cheese, lean meat, eggs, fish
- Soup

### **The 4 Cs are not allowed at any time:**

Chewing Gum, Crisps, Chocolate bars/spreads and Candy (sweets). Note also that fizzy/isotonic drinks are not allowed.

### **Roles and Responsibilities:**

#### **Role of Parents:**

- To provide a healthy well-balanced lunch for children
- To encourage healthy eating
- To inform the school of any child's special dietary needs / allergies
- To support and implement school policy by not allowing their children to bring chewing gum, crisps, chocolate bars, candy (sweets), or fizzy / isotonic drinks to school.
- Parents are asked not to provide sugary / isotonic drinks or foods even for sports events.

Kilcoskan NS is a Green School. From September 2023 all **lunch waste will go home with children** in their lunchboxes and this is something parents are asked to keep in mind when preparing lunches.

**Role of Children:**

- To eat their lunch
- To bring home packaging and any uneaten lunch
- To help make their lunches and remind parents of the Healthy Lunch Policy
- Not to bring chewing gum, crisps, chocolate, candy or fizzy / isotonic energy drinks to school

**Role of School:**

- To arrange for a supply of plain cows' milk to be available for purchase in school.
- Annually, the school will hold health and healthy eating themed events / periods. During such events, the school will of course promote and encourage healthy eating – as it will continuously through delivery of the Social, Personal and Health Education curriculum in classes.
- Innovative displays / actions to encourage healthy eating from the start of the school year will be encouraged. At times during the school year, healthy eating flyers will be provided or talks held for parents.

If children bring chewing gum, crisps, chocolate bars candy (sweets) or fizzy / isotonic energy drinks to school they will **not be allowed to consume them while in school**. If children have these foods and nothing else for their lunch a lunch (e.g. bread / cheese / fruit) may be offered by the school on the day and the matter will be brought to the attention of parents. If necessary, meetings with parents may be held.

Please note that we will operate a slightly different policy for our small class pupils and any children with additional needs.

**Birthday Policy** – Each month on one day the birthdays of every child in that month will be celebrated with cupcakes provided by the school. Cakes from home will not be permitted.

**Implementation:**

This policy will be implemented immediately. A copy of The Healthy Food Pyramid and healthy eating guidelines will be on display in every classroom from the start of the school year and will be referred to regularly. Note that on very rare, special occasions pupils may receive food treats e.g., Halloween, Pancake Day, Christmas Concerts, School Tours.

**Date for review of Healthy Eating Policy: June 2024**

Ratified by Kilcoskan NS Board of Management \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Chairperson: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_