

Happy lunch time pupil helpers mean our lunch times run smoothly and pupils develop valuable leadership skills

Our lunchtime experience has definitely been enhanced over the last few years by the service we receive from our fantastic team of Happy Lunchtime Helpers. Their responsibilities take place in the Purple Planet, which is our dining area catering for both packed lunch eaters and those who select to eat a hot school lunch cooked on site and served up by our own kitchen staff. They have a responsibility to ensure that lunchtimes run as smoothly and as efficiently as possible, supporting a positive atmosphere which contribute to the overall enjoyment for all our diners. They do this by helping with the distribution of plates, cutlery and water, clearing away plates and taking orders for the choice of puddings on offer each day. The younger members of our school find the attentions of the Happy Lunchtime Helpers very beneficial as they are helped with the cutting up of some of their food and encouraged to eat the meal provided.

A Happy Lunchtime Helper proudly wears an apron clearly defining them within the Purple Planet. They are paid 5 house points per shift and have the privilege of being able to collect their meal first on the days that they are not working. In addition, all Happy Lunchtime Helpers have the chance to win a prize of a cookery book or cookery related item each term.

Any vacancies within the team are advertised through Purple Pages. Following the completion of an application form, interviews take place and are followed by relevant training led by existing Happy Lunchtime Helpers. The rota provides for a minimum of four HLH per sitting and each team member usually works two shifts each week. Regular meetings with the headteacher are held and this provides the opportunity to discuss any difficulties or ways in which the lunchtime period can be run even more effectively.