



## Midday supervisor training to support UIFSM

Midday supervisors at Hartley Primary School in Newham attended training offered by the London Borough of Newham to all midday assistants to enhance and improve the lunchtime experience of children in the Borough, to support their pilot of UIFSM. The work-shop style training was all about ideas. As well as looking at the role of lunchtime staff, they looked at how to promote positive lunchtime behaviour and encourage healthy eating.

Sharifa Yusuf, senior midday supervisor says “We’ve come a long way since the days when some kids would come to school with cakes, crisps or a packet of biscuits for their pack lunch”. In the dining hall we looked across the board from the layout and décor to the food and beverages, as a team we decided that we needed more posters promoting healthy food, which would encourage children to eat better.

A major part of the training was to develop an action plan jointly with the catering staff and head teacher in the school to improve our dining environment. We’ve quite a compact hall but came up with changes like round tables instead of benches and a water cooler for the children to get their drinks. The training has helped us look at things differently and how we can improve every aspect of what we offer at lunchtime.

Nearly all our children take-up our offer of free school meals. Even those that were reluctant at first have been converted – and we’ve even had a few “wows” at mealtime!”

Hartley Primary School, London Borough of Newham