

Lunch is part of the curriculum at Surrey Square

At Surrey Square Primary we see the school lunch as part of the school's learning, just like English and Maths. We have free school meals in Southwark so when they were introduced we needed to think how we were going to accommodate those extra children and make sure they ate their meal, as part of their education.

For reception children we have integrated lunchtime into their curriculum. They have lunch at 11:30. Eight children sit around the table with 2 adults (teaching and support staff) and they are served their lunch from small serving trays in the middle of the table (this is known as family service). The adults help the children use knives and forks and talk to the children about the food that is available for lunch that day. The children are encouraged to try new fruit and vegetables and they all talk together about where the food comes from.

The investment we make with the reception children really pays off - year 1 children know how to use a knife and fork and are familiar with the food so they are quick to choose their food. The atmosphere in our new dining pavilion is pleasant, where children chat and relax and enjoy a great meal.

As an inner city primary schools it is important that food is not only delicious, wholesome and well cooked and presented it must also meet the needs of all the children in our school so we have a varied menu, which is inspired by food from across the world. Indeed we use food as a way to help and encourage children to talk about and identify and celebrate the amazing number of different cultures we have in school.