



Barrowby Church of England Primary School

Hot School Meals Survey Results (October 2014)

Thank you to those parents who took part in our recent survey about the introduction of hot school meals. The response rate was very low—only 39 forms were returned, representing 54 children (21%). However, those who did respond were very positive, with only a small minority of negative comments.

Of the 27 children represented in KS1, 24 had a hot meal every day, 2 had hot meals on some days, and 1 had packed lunches.

Of the 27 children represented in KS2, 14 had a hot meal every day and 13 had a hot meal some days.

Of those who responded :

About The Barrowby Dining Experience:

96% said their child enjoyed having a hot meal

92% said their child benefited from having a hot meal

96% said their child would have hot meals in the future

96% said the new arrangements encouraged good table manners

About Food4Thought

68% found registering easy

96% found it easy to contact Food4Thought, or had not contacted them

96% found ordering easy

84% said problems were resolved swiftly, or had not had any problems

Parents' positive comments included: their children were enjoying the meals more than they had expected (and therefore having them more often); children were choosing different foods and enjoying them; children were encouraged to try foods, especially vegetables, by their friends.

There were also some negative comments, which included: portion sizes are not large enough for some older children; difficulties when some menu options had run out (hopefully this is a problem which has been resolved since the introduction of menu cards for Key Stage 2, as well as Key Stage 1); Food4Thought's ordering system could be made simpler and quicker to use.

We will continue to work with our hot meal provider to address any issues raised.

Packed lunches and drinks at lunchtime

As you know, all our children now have lunch together in the school hall, including those who have packed lunches. To encourage good manners at the dining table, children with packed lunches are being encouraged to pour their drink in to a beaker at lunchtime, if they have brought a drink from home (water is freely available to all children during lunch).

We are also considering encouraging children who have brought a packed lunch to transfer their lunch onto a plate rather than eating it from a their lunch box, to enhance their dining experience and promote good table manners. We will inform you if we decide to implement this with the children.