



## Welcome Food Explorers!

Derbyshire County Council Catering Service proudly introduces 'Food Explorers', our new and exciting primary school catering brand.

When it comes to food, we know our stuff and serve approximately 50,000 meals per day across the county for the children of Derbyshire. From this expertise we understand the need to make lunch time fun for pupils, whilst helping them make healthier choices and eat a balanced diet.

To do this, we developed 'Food Explorers', a programme of activities that invite children to discover new flavours, learn about food and ultimately become a Food Explorer.

The Food Explorer menu exceeds government guidelines and is accredited with the Silver Food for Life Served Here quality award from the Soil Association.

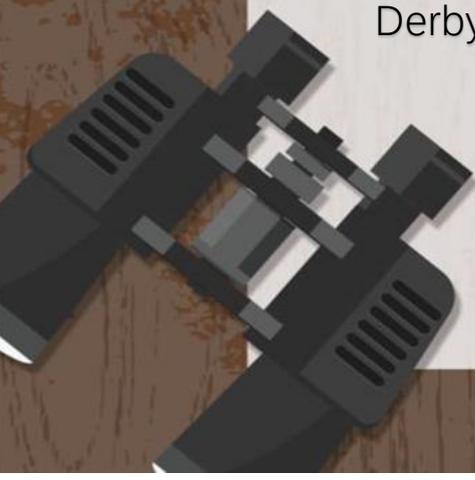
Your Food Explorer(s) will be served nutritionally balanced meals made from high quality ingredients and produce from local suppliers and distributors.

We hope that our programme will teach children about food, create an enjoyable lunchtime experience and help all pupils lead healthier lives. If you would like any more information, please do not hesitate to contact the Derbyshire Catering Service team who are here to help.

Derbyshire Catering Service Contact Details:

Telephone: 01629 536704

Email: [catering@derbyshire.gov.uk](mailto:catering@derbyshire.gov.uk)



## Derbyshire Catering Service Frequently Asked Questions

1 How much does a school meal cost?

*All children of infant age (reception, year 1 and year 2) receive a free meal regardless of personal circumstances through the government's Universal Infant Free School Meal scheme.*

*If you have older children and pay for meals, each school collects payment in different ways please check with your child's school.*

*Some families may be eligible for a Free School Meal, we would encourage every family to complete the Free School Meal form. If you do become eligible it means school receive additional funding from the government.*

2 What should I do if my child has a food allergy or intolerance?

*We cater for many different types of medical diet. Please complete a medical diet request form which can be obtained from your school office. When returned, this must be accompanied by written confirmation from a health care professional. If the diet is complex, we may need to contact you to arrange a meeting to discuss your child's requirements.*

3 Do you offer faith, vegetarian or vegan diets?

*Yes we do. Please speak to your individual school caterer regarding this.*

4 What happens if my child is a fussy eater or has additional needs regarding food and the lunchtime experience?

*Our staff are very friendly and always encourage children to try new foods where possible. You may find that by having school meals your child will try foods that they wouldn't necessarily have at home. They will never be forced to eat a food they don't like.*

5 Does my child have to have a dinner every day or pre-order their dinner?

*Derbyshire Catering Service are very flexible but each individual school has their own policy regarding this. Please check your child's school for more information.*

6 How do I get information about the food that is being served?

*Derbyshire Catering Service produces two different menus each year. A menu leaflet will be sent home to you via your school. More information can be found on our website: <https://www2.myschoollunch.co.uk/derbyshire/>*