

One of a series of fact sheets based on frequently asked questions (FAQs)

RCCS FAQs: THE CANTEEN



Who provides the catering service?

The catering service at RCCS is provided by Caerphilly Catering, who also work in the majority of schools across the borough.

When is the canteen open?

The canteen is open at break time, and of course at lunchtime every day during term time.

What food is served?

There is a wide variety of choice each day and over the week. All food conforms to the "Appetite for Life" requirements. Examples include traditional British dishes such as shepherd's pie and roast chicken with fresh vegetables. We also serve pasta bolognese, sandwiches and baguettes. There are also drinks, including milk, fruit juice and mineral water, and fresh fruit is always available. Find out more [here!](#)



How much does the food cost?

Well, for example, a roast dinner including dessert of the day and a drink would cost a pupil £2.05. A ham salad sandwich is £1.25. A fruit juice is £0.40. As well as being healthy the food represents excellent value for money.

How do pupils pay?

In common with many schools we operate a cashless system in the canteen. Pupils and staff pay through a fingerprint recognition system or with a prepaid card. Pupils pay in advance either by using the machine in the school which accepts bank notes and coins from 10p upwards, or parents can now top up on-line.



Is the biometric system secure?

Yes, and of course we conform to all regulations with regard to data protection etc. More information is available from the school or on our website.

So can customers use cash in an emergency?

No, this is not possible- they need to top up their accounts in advance.

What if the system fails?

We have contingency arrangements to ensure pupils can have access to food in the event of a power cut, for example.



Can I set a limit for how much my child can spend a day?

Yes- please let us know by phone, email, or just a note at reception and we can set any limit you request. The default limit is set at £5, which is more than enough.

My child is entitled to free school meals.... what should I do?

This will be arranged automatically and your child's account will be credited each day- but the money may only be spent at lunchtime. Please encourage them to use their allocation, as it cannot be carried over to the next day. Please click [here](#) for further information

Can my child bring his/her own food into school?

Yes, that's fine. All food needs to be consumed in the canteen however, unless a teacher makes alternative arrangements. And we encourage everyone to try our service- we're very proud of it!