

NEWSLETTER



SCHOOL FOOD PLAN UPDATE

At the September Board meeting, the LACA Directors discussed how improvements could be made to communicating with LACA members.

A weekly newsletter was suggested and this is the first of what is hoped to be a regular update to members.

This newsletter covers an update and progress being made relating to The School Food Plan with useful links and how you can get involved.



UFSM and getting ready for delivery:

There are concerns about how the sector will be able to ensure appropriate infrastructure, training and resources to deliver UFSM. There may be an opportunity to establish a working group to bring together the experiences of those Boroughs who have already done this so that best practice can be shared. Any thoughts or ideas on how to do this very welcome!

UFSM & press:

Many of you kindly supported the School Food Plan in your press work over the last week, and

thank you so much for this. Do continue to let them know what you do, so that they can keep a record. Do please refer people to the piece that was written by Jemima Lewis

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/primaryeducation/10318087/Everyone-benefits-from-free-school-meals.html> which sums up the position in the Plan well.

Also refer people to chapter 11 of the Plan.

Cooking on the Curriculum:

The final curriculum has been published. You can access all the documents here -

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-education/series/national-curriculum>

Standards:

They are finalising the Standards Group membership being chaired by Henry, and will have the first meeting on October 1st. They are still working to the agreed process in the SFP and, importantly, to the date of September 2014 when the new standards will be made available to schools. Susan Jebb (who is now at Oxford University) will be project managing the process.

Flagships:

There is a briefing event on October 7th at City Hall, 1pm to 3pm for representatives of the 33 London Boroughs. An invite has gone out from Rosie Boycott as the Mayor's Food Advisor and Chair of the London Food Board. At the moment the intention is that this initial briefing event will be for Boroughs only, though they have noted there is interest from other parties. It is anticipated that the application process will be published shortly after this event.



DfE funding for Breakfasts and Take-up:

DfE held their Bidders Briefing last Monday, and was attended by about 45 organisations. There was good feedback from that which will help shape the final tender documentation, which is anticipated to be published on September 27th. There was a request that the School Food Plan should help support smaller organisations that may be interested in bidding to be able to come together to

discuss potential consortia - and they are working out how to best do this through the SFP website. See

<https://online.contractsfinder.businesslink.gov.uk/Common/View%20Notice.aspx?site=1000&lang=en¬iceid=1106871&fs=true>

for the current information from DfE, and note that Contract Finder will be the route by which all tenders will be submitted and managed.

Teacher Training for Head teachers:

There have been some great discussions with the National College for Teaching and Learning, and they are preparing modules and learning materials with us that will be integrated into their school leadership programmes. Some of you have already offered up potential resources, so do please get in touch with the SFP if you want to support this work.

Small Schools Taskforce:

There have been several phone meetings with the emerging working group, which is being supported by representatives from Brakes (including Creative Foods), Compass (their Steamplicity and Cygnet offers), PKL, Cambridge Catering Services, Annabel Karmel and FFLP amongst others. The SFP hope they have identified a suitable pilot area and also (importantly) a project manager to take on this work, together with some funding to take this forward. The pilot will be properly evaluated

(and the evaluation will also look at other delivery methods around the country) and the findings made publicly available. The group has also recognised that the announcement of UFSM will help the economics, but that there are still many small rural schools that despite increased take-up would benefit from potential alternative school food delivery models.

Training the Workforce:

Anne Bull is chairing this group, and the next meeting will be held on the 1st October (just before the Standards meeting, so a busy day!) We'll send out an update after the meeting which will include the agreed action plan and terms of reference.



What Works Well Website:

Leah at the SFP has been busy with TES - working with them on the plans for the revamp of cooking resources for schools. Thanks to all of you who have already supplied information.

Image and branding - Getting the message out there:

John Vincent and Myles Bremner are seeing Wally Ollins and Richard Reed in the next couple of weeks to take forward the 'branding work'. They are designing a version of the Head Teachers Checklist that they will make available for anyone to use to

distribute. It's great to see many organisations use the Checklist in their communications to schools. Use of logo and simple branding guidelines are being produced with DfE. The National Association of Headteachers Union (NAHT) is actively supporting spreading the word of the Plan, and they are booked to speak at conferences for the Spring.



Public Health England:

They are continuing positive discussions with Change 4Life, and PHE have also agreed to promote the DfE funding (and the need for match funding!) to the Health and Well Being Boards nationally.

For more information and to keep up to date visit the web site -

<http://www.schoolfoodplan.com/plan/>