

The Jungle Day Nursery & Cheeky Monkeys Nursery Ltd

Policy No 34-02

Children at Meal Times

This policy summarises the procedures adopted at the nursery to encourage acceptable standards of table manners and behaviour during mealtimes:

1. The principles and procedures relating to the planning of menus are summarised in policy 34-01.
2. Meal times at the nursery are encouraged to be a happy and social occasion for the children and staff. Staff will be expected to set a good example of table manners.
3. Staff will respect the cultural differences in eating habits and any special dietary requirements arising through preferences, clinical diets and religious/ cultural backgrounds.
4. Staff will promote good manners:
 - Children are encouraged to take their turn to be served food and to wait until all the other children have been served before starting their meal.
 - Children are encouraged to say 'please' and 'thank you'.
 - Children are encouraged to sit still during mealtimes. Conversation is encouraged; shouting is discouraged.
5. Children eating:
 - Children are encouraged to finish their food. Slow eaters will be given time and not rushed, and under no circumstances food will be taken away from a child who is slow.
 - Children who do not finish their main course will be offered small helping of dessert.
 - Any child who shows signs of distress will be treated sensitively and will have their food removed without undue fuss.
 - Where possible, children are encouraged to wait until everybody has finished their main course before moving onto desert.

Signed by _____ Date _____ Review Date _____

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