**Lunch Club Policy**

Review date- January 2024

Willow Bank Pre-School lunch club operates between 11.45am and 12.30pm Monday to Friday.

Willow Bank Pre-School regards snack time and lunch time as an important part of the pre-school day.  We will use the Lunch Club to help children to develop independence; by helping them to make choices.  Assisting them to help themselves to food and drink and encouraging them to feed themselves.   We believe eating represents a social time for children and adults and helps children to learn about food and healthy eating.

**How does it work?**

* Please provide a healthy packed lunch every day for your child.
* Please ensure your child's lunch bag or box is clearly labelled with his or her name.
* Please do not put treats like sweets, nuts, peanuts, fizzy drinks or chocolate in your child's packed lunch.  Willow Bank Pre-school reserves the right to not allow any such items to be consumed at our Lunch Club.
* Even if your child does not suffer from a food related allergy, we kindly ask you to avoid putting items in your child’s lunch that may cause a problem for another child in the setting, such as nuts.
* Fees are £5 per lunch club  (fees for the whole term must be paid in advance).
* Please give minimum of 24hrs notice when booking extra lunch clubs, places will be given on a first come first serve basis up to our limit of 16 children and 20 children in summer term.

**Packed lunches**

* We ensure perishable contents of packed lunches are refrigerated or contain an ice pack to keep food cool.
* We encourage parents to provide sandwiches with a healthy filling, fruit, and milk-based deserts such as yoghurt etc. We can only provide cold food from home. We discourage sweet drinks, sweets, chocolates, food with nuts in. We can provide children with water or milk.
* We ensure children sit together to eat their lunch so that the mealtime is a social occasion.

**Legal framework**

* Regulation (EC) 852/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the hygiene of foodstuffs

 **Further guidance**

* Safer Food, Better Business (Food Standards Agency 2008)