



The Astley Cooper School

Part of the East Dacorum Co-operative Learning Trust

9 September 2020

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Headteacher: Edward Gaynor

Dear Parent/ Carers

I am writing to you to explain the arrangements for your child during their Food Studies lessons at Astley Cooper School.

Our students study good food hygiene practice and learn about the equipment used in school. Lessons are a mixture of practical and theory work and pupils learn to prepare a range of ingredients correctly and safely. Students will cook predominantly savoury dishes to equip them with the skills required to eat a healthy and balanced diet after leaving school.

There is a risk assessment in place for Food Studies due to Covid- 19 and the layout of the rooms has been altered to keep our students safe. Students will be reminded to regularly wash their hands and we have a supply of paper towels for drying hands. We cannot supply aprons at the moment and if your child has their own apron they can bring that in for their lesson. All equipment will be disinfected after each use and before being used by other students. Your child will no longer be able to come over to the department to drop off their ingredients in the morning. These will be collected at 9.00am from their bubble. **Please ensure that your child's name is on any ingredients that need refrigerating so that we are able to locate them when putting out their ingredients on the tables before the lessons.** At the end of the day your child will be escorted to the department to collect any dishes made that have been refrigerated to take home.

Please note that nail varnish and false nails are not part of our school uniform policy and students will be unable to cook if they refuse to remove the nail varnish or are wearing false nails. This is for hygiene and safety reasons in line with Food Hygiene Guidelines.

The proposed schedule of practical lessons has been given to your child in their first lesson; however these could be subject to change at short notice because of Covid - 19. Where individual students have difficulty in obtaining ingredients for practical or financial reasons, they should raise this issue with their teacher prior to the lesson. We are always willing to help source ingredients where possible. You will however appreciate that help of this nature cannot be given at the last moment, and I would like to request that you inform me by email or telephone of any difficulties as soon as possible, I can be contacted at g.hodges@astleycooperschool.herts.sch.uk.

If any student does not bring the necessary ingredients, they will miss the opportunity to participate in the practical lessons and learn the necessary skills to progress.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like to discuss this further.

Yours sincerely

Miss G Hodges
Subject Leader Food Studies

