

Rugby and Cricket Sports Refreshments from 2018

The majority of our competitors are independent schools, many of whom have on site catering facilities to offer a light lunch / tea for our teams when they visit. To continue playing these teams, we have to be able to provide similar hospitality to our visitors

Up until 2017, this has been provided by a small number of parent volunteers. We have now decided to attempt a different approach in which the team parents coordinate the refreshments for their year group matches.

Our proposal is to organise the refreshments from January 2018 as follows:

- We create a WhatsApp group for each team which includes the contact details of as many team player parents as are able to help with this
- Each group will be given advanced warning each term of the matches they need to provide refreshments for
- Each group will be responsible for organising providing food for their matches
- Each group will be able to choose what food to provide and how to ensure their matches are covered
- One or two team coordinators will ensure all matches are covered each term and will provide the refreshments coordinator with details of who is doing what
- Parents can provide food only or food, serve and clear up, or serve and clear up only depending upon their preference
- The refreshment coordinator will feed the information back to the games department

At present, the groups have been set up by year group irrespective of A, B or C teams. This is because it will require around 15 parents for each year group to cover the matches and some parents are only able to provide food whilst others are only able to help serve and tidy up. The preferences of individual parents have not been publicised on the basis that each person can identify what they are willing to help with using the group chat and depending upon the needs of the matches.

The aim is for each team to take control of organising their own match refreshments but to let the refreshments coordinator know that all matches have been covered. The individual contacting the refreshments coordinator can change each term or remain the same – depending upon the group preference. Similarly, each group can decide whether to provide food on the current basis or to change to eg pasta and sauce/baked potatoes etc depending upon the parents' preference.

Once set up, the refreshments coordinator will leave the details of arrangements to be made by the groups. The coordinator will have a list of parents who do not have sports children but are happy to help in case there are insufficient parents for any particular match but this will only be used as a final 'emergency' option.

Once the process has been trialled, each group is free to organise themselves as they wish. The refreshments coordinator has no plans to be actively involved apart from ensuring the whole process is working.

At the start of each new season, an administrator will need to change the title of the group. The instructions for doing this are set out on the Group Chat guidelines on the refreshments section of

the PA section of the school website. Other guidance about how to use WhatsApp is also available on the website.