



Directorate for Learning and Assessment Programmes

Tel: 2598 2425 / 2598 2426 / 2598 2427

Email: gaetano.bugeja@ilearn.edu.mt

LETTER CIRCULAR

Information: X

Date: 9th October 2018

Action Required: X

Ref: DLAP 268/2018

To: All Heads of Primary and Secondary Schools (State and Non-State) and Sections

From: Lorraine Dimech Magrin – Education Officer, Home Economics

Subject: Food and Beverage Standards

Heads of School are kindly informed that the Ministry for Education and Employment is working closely with the Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Directorate and the Environmental Health Department within the Secretariat for Health to continue with the efforts to combat childhood obesity.

The Health Inspectorate Services will continue with its regular monitoring of all foods and drinks sold by school tuckshops and school vending machines. In order to support schools to be in line with the ‘Whole School Approach to a Healthy Lifestyle: Healthy Eating and Physical Activity Policy’, launched in February 2015, the checklist that the Health Inspectors will be using when they visit schools is being sent as an attachment. Kindly note that the Health Inspectors will also be checking that personnel working in the tuckshops all have a valid Food Handling licence.

Many schools, including those schools that do not have a tuckshop, organise activities that involve the consumption of foods and drinks on the school premises or while students are on educational visits outside the school premises. While these activities are laudable, it is important that the food and drinks consumed during these activities are in line with the Policy and Legal Notice 266 of 2018. To this end, the Healthy Plate, the list of permissible and non-permissible foods/drinks and the LN 266 are also being sent as attachments to this circular for your perusal. The Healthy Plate Graphic which aligns with the latest Maltese Dietary Guidelines is intended to be used by educators in schools to deliver consistent messages in promoting a healthy lifestyle.

Thank you all for your collaboration.

Gaetano Bugeja
Director, Learning and Assessment Programmes