**Policy: Food Services**

**Introduction:**Food **services** are arrangements made by Schools for students and staff to obtain healthy food choices through a School canteen during the school day and during extra-curricular activities. The **School canteen** is the place equipped for the preparation, distribution and sale of healthy permitted food for students and staff in a School.

**Rational:**• To ensure that School canteens in Private Schools comply with the current
“School Canteen Standards” set forth by MOE Food Control department and U.A.Q Municipality.
• To ensure that Private Schools carry out their duties in promoting healthy eating within their School communities.
**Policy Statement:**

Elite APS adopts a program to provide students and employees with healthy nutrient-rich food, while avoiding excessive consumption of food with low nutritional value. The School should fully comply with the rules and requirements specified by MOE Food Control Authority , and U.A.Q Municipality in this regard. The School shall also obtain the necessary and effective licenses and maintain inspection records and notifications.
This policy follows the “School Canteen Standards” established by MOE and U.A.Q Municipality regarding the mandatory requirements and the appropriate management of School canteen facilities, food safety and hygiene.
A School wishing to provide food services for students and staff may do so through a School canteen during the school day. These Schools shall maintain a record of related valid licenses, inspection visits and notices.
The process of offering food shall always comply with the requirements of MOE , the School board , and the requirements stipulated in the “School Canteen Guidelines of the Emirate of Umm Al Quwain”. These requirements are related to School canteen facilities management, School canteen health conditions, nutrition and healthy-eating standards, School canteen suppliers and reporting food-related complaints including cases of food poisoning.
Schools offering a food service through a School canteen shall develop a healthy eating and nutrition policy and distribute it to School staff, students and Parents / Guardians. This policy shall include a commitment to promote and encourage students to develop healthy eating habits by supporting the provision of healthy nutrition for all members of the School community.

Schools are expected to maintain a healthy environment and promote and encourage a healthy life style through education using both the curriculum and extra-curricular activities.
**ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:**

**Elite APS** will:
- Oversee food service provided by the School to ensure that such services
conform in full to the standards required by MOE , U.A.Q Municipality and School Board and any other relevant official authorities in this regard.
- Maintain a record of all food-related complaints and outlining procedures duly taken in that regard.
**Principal** will:
- Ensure that any food service provided by the School conforms in full to the standards required by MOE , School board and U.A.Q Municipality .
- Ensure that all requirements, specifications and procedures for School canteen facilities, hygiene and safety, nutritional requirements, and food supplier requirements are followed by the School as specified in the “School Canteen Standards of the Emirate of Umm Al Quwain”.
Oversee the development, implementation, and monitoring of this policy, and encourage a participatory approach to meeting the objectives.

 • Ensure that the food provided to students meets the requirement and recommendations of the U.A.Q Municipality Guidelines and Requirements for Food & Nutrition in Schools in UAE 2018. All staff are expected to:

Elite APS Food Policy

• Work to develop an understanding and ethos within the school of safe, nutritious, environmentally sustainable food, through both education and example.

 • Work to create an environment, both physical and social, conducive to the enjoyment of nutritious food

• Monitor students’ eating habits and alert parents if there are cause for concern