

## SSA EQUALITY IMPACT AND NEEDS ANALYSIS

<b>Directorate</b>	Children's Services
<b>Service Area</b>	Schools Support
<b>Service/policy/function being assessed</b>	School Breakfast Provision
<b>Which borough (s) does the service/policy apply to</b>	Wandsworth
<b>Staff involved in developing this EINA</b>	Gary Hipple
<b>Date approved by Directorate Equality Group (if applicable)</b>	
<b>Date approved by Policy and Review Manager</b> All EINAs must be signed off by the Policy and Review Manager	
<b>Date submitted to Directors' Board</b>	

### 1. Summary

Good food is vital to children's health and academic achievement, but access to affordable, nutritious food has become more challenging for an increasing number of families. The current cost of living crisis is widening and deepening this issue and will continue to have health impacts ranging from hunger to obesity, and social consequences such as social exclusion.

The number of children eligible for free school meals is still rising, 9460 at the January census, which is now 29% of our school population. In response the Council has co-produced a School Food Strategy with stakeholders. The strategy has been developed to bring together key food themes and ensures that we have a coherent, joined up holistic approach to school food. A key element of the strategy is the manifesto commitment of breakfast provision to schools. A pilot project run in partnership with Magic Breakfast, a hunger focused charity and twenty Wandsworth Primary schools has provided valuable insight and learning on how we best support children, families and schools with breakfast provision.

The schools in the breakfast programme have the highest percentages and numbers of free school eligible children. The breakfast programme schools have an average of 40% of children eligible for free school meals compared to an all school borough average of 29%.

The outcomes from the pilot project have been positive and encouraging. Schools have reported on reduced hunger amongst children, improved punctuality and children more ready to learn.

### 2. Evidence gathering and engagement

**a. What evidence has been used for this assessment? For example, national data, local data via DataRich or DataWand**

Evidence	Source
Departmental School Fact Sheets	School census data
Ward deprivation data	Datawand

### b. Who have you engaged and consulted with as part of your assessment?

Individuals/Groups	Consultation/Engagement results	Date	What changed as a result of the consultation
20 school leaders, headteachers, school business managers, deputy headteachers.	Schools have provided agreement of their participation in the programme	March-May 2024	Some schools proposed models of provision change to accommodate their particular needs and some breakfast choices changed for the same reason.

### 3. Analysis of need

We know that parents want to provide for their children, but a growing bank of national and local evidence shows that levels of food insecurity across London and in Wandsworth are rising, with parents and families having to make difficult decisions every day. The Trussell Trust recently reported that in 2021-22 at Wandsworth Foodbanks, that their provision of emergency food supplies to local people whose income did not cover the cost of essentials, increased by 53% on pre-pandemic levels noting that over 1 in 3 of these emergency food supplies were for children. They also reported that 6 in 10 parents at the foodbank had skipped meals so their children could eat, during the previous month.

The latest school census data shows that over 9,400 children are now known to be eligible for Free Schools Meals, 29% of the maintained and academy school population in Wandsworth. This is a rise from 17% in 2019 and are the highest figures ever recorded for the borough. However, the threshold of eligibility for free school meals is very strict. Anyone earning over £7,400 annually and claiming universal credit is not eligible for free school meals. Prior to 2018, all families on universal credit were eligible without the earnings cap.

The Cost of Living Commission report from December 2023 also noted that 'Food prices have been rising sharply over the past year and were 19.2% higher in March 2023 compared with a year before, a 45-year high. In August, food inflation had lowered to 13.6% higher than the year before. To put this into context, the Food Foundation estimate that for a reasonably costed, adequately nutritious diet since April 2022:

- the woman's basket of food has increased in price by 23.9%, now costing £50.76 per week.
- the male basket has increased by 27.5% and currently costs £55.49 per week.

For one of the least deprived London boroughs, Wandsworth has relatively high levels of food insecurity. An estimated 14.2% of adults experience food insecurity in Wandsworth (36,930 adults), the 12th highest ranking across London. According to a survey commissioned by the Food Foundation and conducted by YouGov in January 2021, in Wandsworth:

- 5.8% (15,130) adults suffered from hunger
- 14.2% (36,930) struggled to access food
- 14.6% (38,030) worried about not having enough food

The Wandsworth Cost of Living Commission specifically recommended in their report that the Council ‘**Tackle child food poverty** through targeted campaigns in relation to school food: Develop options and pilot projects to test the impact and value of approaches to providing additional ongoing support for low-income families in relation to school food.’

This school breakfast programme will support many families by reducing the impact of these sharply rising food costs.

**Potential impact on this group of residents and actions taken to mitigate impact and advance equality, diversity and inclusion**

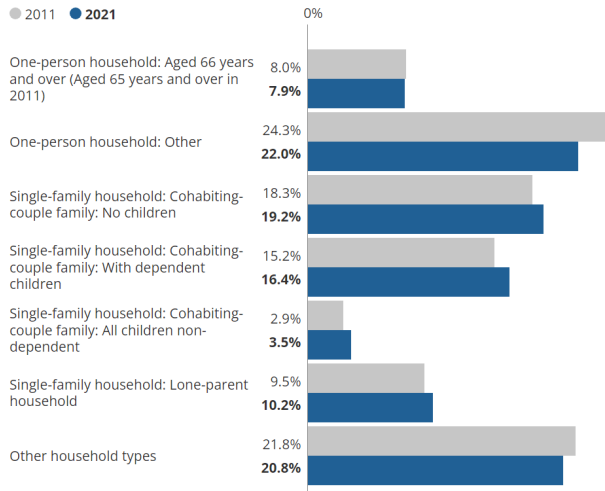
Protected group	Findings																								
<b>Age</b>	The beneficiaries of the programme are children in primary schools aged 5 - 11. On average 29% of the total school population are eligible for free school meals. The programme will benefit schools with an average of 40% of children eligible for free school meals.																								
<b>Disability</b>	<p>Over the past 5 years, the number of Wandsworth children and young people with Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCP) has increased by 78%. The SEN2 return reported 2,336 children and young people with an EHCP, which represented 2.89% of the 0-24 resident population.</p> <p>The percentage figure for children in the programme participating schools is 5% The proposals will specifically benefit children with SEND in the participating schools.</p> <p>Number of children with EHCPs and SE...</p> <table border="1"> <caption>Number of children with EHCPs and SEN Support (2018-2024)</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Total - EHCP (Number on Roll)</th> <th>Total - SEN Supp...</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2018</td> <td>1,300</td> <td>4,427</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2019</td> <td>1,767</td> <td>4,447</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2020</td> <td>1,836</td> <td>4,526</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2021</td> <td>2,015</td> <td>4,280</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2022</td> <td>2,124</td> <td>4,394</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2023</td> <td>2,212</td> <td>4,472</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2024</td> <td>2,336</td> <td>4,492</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Year	Total - EHCP (Number on Roll)	Total - SEN Supp...	2018	1,300	4,427	2019	1,767	4,447	2020	1,836	4,526	2021	2,015	4,280	2022	2,124	4,394	2023	2,212	4,472	2024	2,336	4,492
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<b>Sex</b>	The primary school population in Wandsworth is 50% males and 50% females. This is matched by these figures in the programme schools. Boys and girls will benefit equally in the participating schools.																								
<b>Gender reassignment</b>	N/A																								
<b>Marriage and civil partnership</b>	N/A																								

<b>Pregnancy and maternity</b>	N/A														
<b>Race/ethnicity</b>	<p>The primary school population in Wandsworth includes 57% of children from a Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic background. The programme participating schools includes 58% of children from a Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic background.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="316 427 1461 580"> <tr> <td>Primary Schools Ethnic Large Group</td> <td>Asian or Asian British</td> <td>Black or Black British</td> <td>Mixed</td> <td>White</td> <td>Other</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total</b></td> <td><b>17%</b></td> <td><b>19%</b></td> <td><b>15%</b></td> <td><b>41%</b></td> <td><b>6%</b></td> </tr> </table>	Primary Schools Ethnic Large Group	Asian or Asian British	Black or Black British	Mixed	White	Other	<b>Total</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>41%</b>	<b>6%</b>		
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<b>Religion and belief, including non belief</b>	Out of 1,796 state-funded primary schools in London, 516 (28.7 per cent) are categorised as faith schools. For the Wandsworth breakfast programme, 30% of the participating schools are faith schools.														
<b>Sexual orientation</b>	N/A														
<b>Across groups i.e older LGBT service users or Black, Asian &amp; Minority Ethnic young men.</b>	N/A														
<p><b>Socio-economic status (to be treated as a protected characteristic under Section 1 of the Equality Act 2010)</b></p> <p><b>Include the following groups:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deprivation (measured by the 2019 English Indices of Deprivation)</li> <li>• Low-income groups &amp; employment</li> <li>• Carers</li> <li>• Care experienced people</li> <li>• Single parents</li> </ul>	<p>On average 29% of the total school population are eligible for free school meals. ranking 14th highest of 32 London boroughs. The proportion of residents eligible has increased from 19.6% in 2019/20 to 29% in 2023/24. Of those that go to school in and live in the borough, there is a positive correlation between higher deprivation levels and the number of pupils registered for FSM – almost 70% in areas with higher deprivation. The programme will benefit schools with an average of 40% of children eligible for free school meals.</p> <p>The average IDACI score of the children in all primary schools is 0.18. the average IDACI score of the children in the programme participating schools is 0.22, indicating that the programme will target and benefit more children of socio-economic disadvantage than on average across our whole school population.</p> <p><b>% School pupils by IDACI banding</b></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="331 1509 1117 1926"> <caption>% School pupils by IDACI banding (Year 2024)</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>IDACI Band</th> <th>% of Pupils</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Band 1a: Most deprived 10%</td> <td>14</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Band 1b: 10-20%</td> <td>12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Band 2: 20-40%</td> <td>25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Band 3: 40-60%</td> <td>22</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Band 4: 60-80%</td> <td>14</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Band 5: Least Deprived 20%</td> <td>13</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Regionally and locally, Roehampton has the most deprived LSOAs across indices and 3 schools from this ward are participating in the programme.</p>	IDACI Band	% of Pupils	Band 1a: Most deprived 10%	14	Band 1b: 10-20%	12	Band 2: 20-40%	25	Band 3: 40-60%	22	Band 4: 60-80%	14	Band 5: Least Deprived 20%	13
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- **Health inequalities**
- **Refugee status**

The percentage of lone parents in Wandsworth has increased between 2011-2021. We know that lone parents are more likely to experience poverty and disadvantage.

Percentage of households by household composition, Wandsworth



Source: Office for National Statistics – 2011 Census and Census 2021

There are 8 participating schools in the 5 wards most vulnerable to food price increases as identified in the Priority Places for Food index.

### Priority Places for Food Index

The Priority Places for Food Index aims to identify neighbourhoods across the UK that are most vulnerable to increases in the Cost of Living through lack of accessibility to cheap, healthy, and sustainable sources of food. It combines data on proximity and accessibility of food shops, availability of online deliveries, socio-demographic characteristics and other factors to produce the overall index. The lowest deciles are most at risk and the highest deciles least at risk. An estimated 34,321 people live in areas within the five lowest deciles across Wandsworth\*.

#### Priority Places for Food Decile by LSOA

Decile 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

#### Ward Population by Priority Places for Food Decile

Decile 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

\*The data for this research have been provided by the Consumer Data Research Centre (CDRC), an ESRC Data Investment. Funding references ES/L011840/1, ES/L011891/1. The Priority Places for Food Index was developed by the CDRC at the University of Leeds in collaboration with Which? See the link below for more information.  
Source: Priority Places for Food Index, 2024 (via CDRC)

### Data gaps

Data gap(s)	How will this be addressed?
Understanding take-up of school meals for pupils across all relevant characteristics will be built into the programme’s monitoring and evaluation to better keep abreast of equalities impacts.	There will be ongoing monitoring of the proposals to mitigate any negative impact on children and families.

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**4. Impact**

Protected group	Positive	Negative
<b>Age</b>	<p>More children in primary schools will have access to a healthy breakfast, enabling them to start the day, more ready to learn.</p> <p>Research conducted by the Institute for Fiscal Studies (IFS) on behalf of the Education Endowment Foundation (EEF), found attendance improved in schools offering breakfast provision with 26 fewer half days of absence per year in a class of 30. This was alongside a reduction in late arrivals.</p>	No negative impacts are anticipated but we will monitor the service to understand the impacts and adjust the programme accordingly.
<b>Disability</b>	The participating programme schools have higher levels of children with EHCPs and therefore more children with SEN will benefit from the programme.	No negative impacts are anticipated but we will monitor the service to understand the impacts and adjust the programme accordingly.
<b>Sex</b>	Boys and girls will access the breakfast support equally.	No negative impacts are anticipated but we will monitor the service to understand the impacts and adjust the programme accordingly.
<b>Gender reassignment</b>	n/a	No negative impacts are anticipated but we will monitor the service to understand the impacts and adjust the

		programme accordingly.
<b>Marriage and civil partnership</b>	n/a	No negative impacts are anticipated but we will monitor the service to understand the impacts and adjust the programme accordingly.
<b>Pregnancy and maternity</b>	n/a	No negative impacts are anticipated but we will monitor the service to understand the impacts and adjust the programme accordingly.
<b>Race/ethnicity</b>	The programme participating schools includes 78% of children from a Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic background.	No negative impacts are anticipated but we will monitor the service to understand the impacts and adjust the programme accordingly.
<b>Religion and belief, including non belief</b>	Schools and magic breakfast will ensure that food meets the school food standards, and is culturally appropriate.	No negative impacts are anticipated but we will monitor the service to understand the impacts and adjust the programme accordingly.

<p><b>Sexual orientation</b></p>	<p>n/a</p>	<p>No negative impacts are anticipated but we will monitor the service to understand the impacts and adjust the programme accordingly.</p>																																				
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**5. Actions to advance equality, diversity and inclusion**

Action	Lead Officer	Deadline
To update this EINA in the light of any further consultation outcomes.	Gary Hipple	Feb 2025



There will be ongoing monitoring of the proposals to mitigate any negative impact on children and families. Understanding take-up of school meals for pupils across all relevant characteristics will be built into the programme's monitoring and evaluation to better keep abreast of equalities impacts.	Gary Hipple	Feb 2025

## 6. Further Consultation (optional section – complete as appropriate)

### Guidance

*Is any further consultation planned? Set details out below.*

Consultation planned	Date of consultation
Review of programme with participating schools.	Feb 2025