



Kings Avenue Primary School

Birthday Treats & Cake Policy

Agreed by Governing Body:

Signed: *R. V. Grant*

(Chair of Governors) 3 Oct 2016

Kings Avenue School – Rationale and Policy regarding Birthday Treats and Cake Sales

Birthday Treats

Rationale:

Over a number of years staff and governors became increasingly concerned about the a hoc and casual arrangements that were sometimes made around children's birthdays. Whilst the school recognised that every child is special and that birthdays are significant and important, an inequality and pressure around birthdays began to arise.

The Head brought this to the attention of the PARENTS, Pupils and Community (PPC) committee in 2011, and it was discussed at a number of meetings. The issues raised included:

- Large party cakes being brought in & needing teaching assistant's time for cutting, giving out and clearing up
- Cakes and or party bags brought in by some children and not others on their birthday
- Children putting pressure on their peers to bring in 'goodies' on their birthday
- Birthday children putting pressure on their parents for 'goodies' for school with some parents unable to afford this
- Some parents succumbing to pressure and buying party food to bring in to school that they could ill afford
- Some party bags having inappropriate or even dangerous items in them such as uninflated ballons and party poppers

Policy

Following discussion at PPC meetings – where the committee included parents – it was decided that the school would notify parents that party cakes, party bags and other party goods should not be bought into school on children's birthdays. It was also noted that classes would usually acknowledge birthdays and sing 'happy Birthday' to children on their birthday.

This policy has been revisited this school year by the PPC who have upheld the decisions of the previous committee.

Cake Sales

Rationale:

Over recent years there has been some confusing of the 'Birthday Treats' policy and the bringing of cakes into school for fund raising. However these two areas need to be viewed separately as they originally were separate concerns.

Kings Avenue has recently reviewed the selling of cakes by the PTA for charity purposes and have checked with the Food Standard Agency (www.food.gov.uk) around the selling of cakes in schools to raise funds for special events and resources. Following the guidance governors at Kings Avenue have agreed the following policy for cake sales:

- KASA will be able to sell cakes to raise funds for the school at any organised event
- Classes will be able to sell cakes to raise money for school visits and resources. These will be scheduled throughout the school year and approximately once a month.