

Kirsty Williams AC/AM
Y Gweinidog Addysg
Minister for Education



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-05-865
Ein cyf/Our ref KW/07552/19

Janet Finch-Saunders AM
Chair, Petitions Committee
Ty Hywel
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

26 November 2019

Dear Janet,

Thank you for your letter of 18 November asking whether there are any current plans for the Welsh Government to review the *Healthy eating in maintained schools* statutory guidance¹ in regards to the requirements concerning the provision of menu choices appropriate for a vegan diet.

The current guidance already provides practical advice on the types of food vegan children should consume to ensure they have an adequate intake of protein and calcium. It also includes a number of naturally vegan options which schools can include on their breakfast and lunch menus such as cereals, beans, vegetables, fruit and bread and recommends plant protein is included on the school menu.

The Welsh Government has made a commitment to review the current Healthy Eating in Schools (Nutritional Standards and Requirements) (Wales) Regulations 2013² in light of changes to nutritional recommendations since they were introduced six years ago. We will be considering the latest research and information concerning nutritional standards when undertaking this task, including whether additional guidance needs to be provided for vegan diets.

¹ <https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2018-12/healthy-eating-in-maintained-schools-statutory-guidance-for-local-authorities-and-governing-bodies.pdf>

² <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/wsi/2013/1984/made>

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

We will, in the meantime, continue to work with Health officials in Welsh Government, the Welsh Local Government Association, local authorities and school catering managers to ensure food and drink provided in our schools makes an important healthy contribution to the diet of our children and young people.

I hope this information is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Kirsty Williams". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'K'.

Kirsty Williams AC/AM

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