

SWOT analysis for taking catering in-house

Strengths

Staff development: team building, participation with pupils, empowerment of staff, freedom to implement training. Control of developing staff capacity, empowering staff, influence attitudes and confidence, ensure they are integrated across the whole school and respond to implementing effective whole school food policies. Freedom to develop creativity in menus and staff skills.

Procurement: local management and control of suppliers, freedom to negotiate price and design menus. Develop local procurement clientele, guarantee ingredients for menu preparation; menu design / portion and price control and quality assurance; manage / prevent food wastage.

Maintenance: Quick response to breakdown / emergencies

Communication: Improved communication between school and catering staff, no time wasted.

Investment: Control of expenditure, profit reinvested into school catering.

Network: with neighbouring DIY schools – create clusters to access staff / equipment etc develop risk management strategies.

Weaknesses

Financial control: Risk if miscalculated business plan, equipment (new equipment, breakdowns, replacements) increased costs (food, staff, utility bills).

Technical issues: Initial lack of expertise in food specifications. Loss of expertise of menu development, training on legal requirements for a food preparation area, safety/hygiene etc. **Communication:** Keeping up to date with new food standards, takes more time/commitment from a staff member; risk if leadership within the school management changes, loss of continuity.

Opportunities

Freedom: to develop service, implement change.

Diversity: freedom to plan, negotiate choice, prices and quality with suppliers, to source local produce and address food miles (local garden market) more opportunities to link and inform curriculum.

Extended services: freedom to promote extended services provision, after school clubs, OAPs, Sports Groups, Outside Catering, engaging with the public. Time to plan and

Threats

Finance: Cost of training: fire, HACCP, food hygiene, safety, first aid.

Staff: Absence, loss of staff and commitment. **Environmental health:** Food poisoning **Capacity:** Increased numbers wanting school meals, impacts on dining room capacity. **Monitoring:** Ofsted, monitoring criteria?

increase staff hours and salaries	
Participation: implementing effective policies:	
eg water, packed lunch, tuck shops, breakfast	
clubs, in close partnership and fully engaged	
consultation.	
Marketing: freedom to diversify and promote	
usage of kitchen and access to kitchen facilities.	