



How Much Food Waste Do Schools Produce?

By Thomas, Joseph, Gabbi and Eve

According to the School Waste Guide 2025, primary schools in England generate around 55,408 tonnes of food waste annually. Secondary schools contribute 24,974 tonnes. This means that altogether, over 80,000 stons of food waste is produced by schools across England every year.

Almost 77% of this waste was
unavoidable too!



The biggest problem was fruit and vegetables. Up to 75% of veg and 25% of fruit selections are discarded by students, creating a significant financial and health costs associated with school meals waste.



Andrew is a passionate financial educator who empowers individuals with financial literacy and money management skills. Through workshops and personalized coaching, he helps clients make informed financial decisions and achieve financial independence. He is currently spearheading education initiatives that will help the public become more financially informed.

But what can schools do to improve the rates of food waste?

We talked to Lauren from RedBox (catering consultancy) to discuss school meals and food waste within Wickersley Partnership Trust. **She said:**

"Starting from 1st April, new food regulations will begin, meaning food waste will have to be separated from other waste so that it can be repurposed. For example, it can be composted or used for pig farms. In turn, this will improve food waste rates as any food that is thrown out will be reused for a different purpose."



We also wanted to know where our food was sourced from, and we found out that:

- ◆ Food provided to Wickersley Partnership Trust schools is sourced from various companies
- ◆ Vegetables are from local suppliers where possible

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- ◆ More education on which foods students should be eating and why
- ◆ Having a 'second helping' option where students get a small portion to start with but then have the chance to go back up for some more food if they are still hungry
- ◆ More education to students around food waste and what this means for the planet

