Oakhill Presentation

Looking back

- Brexit
- Childhood obesity strategy
- Education Policy Institute report into UIFSM published
- Universal Credit





Education Policy Institute (EPI) Report

 Following the publication of the EPI report, the Department of Education issued its first supportive statement of the UIFSM policy:

"Good nutrition is closely linked to attainment and this report illustrates how our free school meals programme – backed by £600 million funding – is already benefitting 1.4 million children across the country, whilst saving their families hundreds of pounds each year.

We have supported schools by providing £184.5 million capital funding to upgrade kitchen and dining facilities, as well as giving extra money to help smaller schools provide these meals. This is part of the government's wider efforts to encourage children of all ages to eat good food that encourages healthy eating for life"

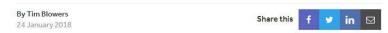
Media Coverage following EPI report

- LACA were interviewed on National radio
- ITN Broadcast at a London primary school
- LACA's call for UIFSM to be extended was reported on BBCs the Victoria Derbyshire show
- Print coverage including Schools Week
- The Times Education Supplement also published an oped by Tim Blowers



'The universal infant free school meals policy makes a real difference – it allows all pupils to have the best start in life'

The UIFSM was a bold policy when introduced three years ago – and its immensely positive impact on our youngest learners has proved its worth, writes the chair of the Lead Association for Catering in Education







@timmyblowers being interviewed by @FayeBarker for ITV news about the positive outcomes of today's launch of UIFSM research @LACA UK #UIFSM



2:41 PM - 24 Jan 2018

Looking ahead

- Political uncertainty
- Brexit continuing to dominate political discourse
- Current poll numbers tight
- Theresa May's position
- The Labour Party
- Metro Mayors

LACA's issues in 2018/19

- Brexit trade deals and customs arrangement with the EU yet to be decided,
 this will impact the price of food and drink imports
- Universal Credit and the impact on school food is still a highly contentious issue, with the Labour Party continuing to use it to criticise the Government.
- Tackling childhood obesity is now a domestic priority, The Childhood Obesity plan 2 published last month stated that the school food standards would be extended to all schools and that the school food standards guidelines on sugar will be updated

Conclusion

- 2017/18 was a tough year but we managed to navigate the political storms and notably stop UIFSM from being scrapped.
- The EPI report garnered widespread attention and highlighted the importance of UIFSM for the health of children
- Childhood Obesity became a topic that dominated the conversation in 2017/18, this is only going to escalate next year and LACA need to be prepared.
- Sugar reduction will continue to be at the top of the agenda and LACA members will have to respond