



Walford

EARLY
LEARNING
CENTRE



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BRIGHT BITES

Walford Bright Bites

Nutritious meals made fresh, for our youngest learners

At Walford's Early Learning Centre (ELC), we are always seeking ways to support children's learning, wellbeing, and sense of belonging, while also making life easier for families.

We are delighted to bring you Walford Bright Bites, our ELC food program.

Developed in partnership with the Fig Tree Café and Cater Care, this cost-effective opt-in program focuses on providing a wide variety of nutritious, child-friendly meals across a four-week rotating menu.

Meals are freshly prepared on-site by our chef, Anthoney, and delivered to the ELC throughout the day, ensuring quality and food safety. Families may opt-in daily or for all days their child attends, ordering via the Flexischools app.

Below and on the following page you will find Frequently Asked Questions to answer common queries. Please reach out if you have any further questions.

Thank you for your ongoing support of our ELC community and for considering participating in Walford Bright Bites—nutritious meals, made fresh.

Cathie Egarr

Head of Junior School

Ali Blake

Director of Early Learning Centre

Frequently Asked Questions

Can I order from the regular Fig Tree Café menu?

No. Walford Bright Bites has been designed specifically for ELC-aged children, with balanced nutrition and child-sized portions. Families will not be able to order from the main Fig Tree Café menu.

What if my child doesn't like the food for that day?

Families may still send food from home if they prefer, as this is an optional program that families can choose to participate in. We encourage, but never force, children to try new foods.

What if I have ordered food and my child doesn't like it?

Encouraging your child to try the food will of course be our intention. Sometimes it might be trying parts of the food to begin with. There will always be something that a teacher can offer, if needed, such as a plain sandwich.

Can I order only part of the menu?

Walford Bright Bites is offered as a daily package, including morning snack, lunch, and afternoon snack. The daily package is ordered in full only.

What happens if my child attends After School Care?

After School Care will continue to provide fruit and a small snack for both ELC and Junior School children.

What is the cost of the Walford Bright Bites ELC Program?

The cost in 2026 of the Walford Bright Bites daily menu will be \$8 per day. This includes morning recess, lunch and afternoon recess for the selected day.

How are lunch meals served?

Meals are served family-style at tables, with teachers sitting alongside children to model cutlery use and meal-time routines. Some foods are served at the table, and other food options will be delivered as single serves.



What if my child is still hungry?

Additional portions are always available. The salad and vegetable component will be encouraged as well.

How will food be delivered?

Meals are delivered safely to the ELC kitchen from the Fig Tree Café and served fresh at tables.

Can I still pack a snack if my child is in the program?

Yes, though we encourage children to try Walford Bright Bites first if the daily menu has been ordered. If needed, we would support a child to ensure they are eating, and this could be communicated to families at the end of the day.

Will children be separated based on whether they're in the program?

No, as has always been our practice with Fig Tree Cafe lunch orders, the children eat together at the same time. Some will have the Walford Bright Bites option, and others will have their own lunch boxes.

When will children eat?

We will have designated eating times, based on ensuring balanced nutrition throughout the day. The morning recess, lunch and afternoon recess times allow for some flexibility, ensuring smooth transition points for your child.

What if children are away during mealtimes?

Food will be safely kept and served when they return, when food safety measures can be maintained.

Can I place a late order?

All orders should be made prior to 6.30am on the day of. Late orders may be accepted via email, but may also incur a different eating option, depending on the timing of the late order. No child will go hungry or without food.

What if my child cannot use cutlery yet?

Teachers will support children in building independence and meal-time skills by sitting at the table with the children.

If my child goes home early, will I be reimbursed or will food be sent home with them?

Generally, no, due to food safety guidelines. Small exceptions may apply for unopened snacks being able to be sent home, dependent on the timing.

Can I cancel my order?

Yes, orders can be cancelled on the day of, prior to 6.30am.

