

SAN MATEO COUNTY'S

FOOD SHARE TABLE PROGRAM

Program Purpose:

Share tables provide an opportunity for children to put unopened and unbitten cafeteria food into a bin for other students to eat. Share tables help reduce food waste and feed students who may have limited access to enough nutritional food to lead a healthy and active lifestyle.

In the US, approximately 40% of food is wasted each year, while 13 million children do not have enough food to eat.

Share Table Guidelines:

Your child can select from or donate to the bins pictured below during lunch. School staff will monitor and help direct children to the correct bin, ensuring food donated follows food safety guidelines.

- Food brought from home is NOT allowed on the share table. Only cafeteria food is allowed.
- Food must be unopened, unbitten, and in its original, sealed packaging.
- Fruit with peels and sliced fruit in sealed packaging may be shared.
- Fruit with edible peels (e.g. plum, apple) must be washed by school staff prior to being redistributed to other students.
- Students with allergies should always ask school staff before selecting share table food.



Hot Food



Cold Food



Plastic Utensils & Condiments



Fruit & Packaged Snacks

How You Can Help:

Speak with your child about the share table.

- Remind your child that lunch food brought from home is not allowed on the share table.
- Practice what food goes in each bin by downloading the student activity sheet at smchealth.org/sharetable.

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SAN MATEO COUNTY HEALTH
**ENVIRONMENTAL
HEALTH SERVICES**



OFFICE OF
SUSTAINABILITY
COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

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smchealth.org/sharetable