

**STRATEGY FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SCHOOL SCHEME IN GERMANY
FROM 2017/2018 TO 2022/2023 SCHOOL YEAR
REGION: NORTH RHINE-WESTPHALIA**

DATE: 29.06.2017 – AMENDED ON 27.08.2019

Federal State:	North Rhine-Westphalia
Amendment as from	01.08.2019
Short justification of the amendments	<p>1. List of products</p> <p>Table 5.1.1: Clarification to the list of fruit and vegetables.</p> <p>Table 5.2.3: Since school year 2019/2020 it is not possible anymore to distribute these products. Only drinking milk and plain yogurt will be offered under the school scheme.</p> <p>Justification: Prioritization of drinking milk.</p> <p>2. The list of the accompanying educational measures has been updated</p>
Involvement of authorities and stakeholders (see Number 7.7 of the strategy):	The amendments have been agreed with the Ministry of Education. The Ministry of Labor, Health and Social Affairs approved the lists of eligible products.

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1. ADMINISTRATIVE LEVEL

Article 23(8) of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 as amended by Regulation (EU) 2016/791 (hereafter, the basic act) and Article 2(1)a of the Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/39 (hereafter, implementing regulation)

National	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Regional	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>In Germany, 15 of the 16 Federal States are participating in either one or both components of the EU school scheme from the 2017/2018 school year onwards.</p> <p>In addition to the provisions of European law, the German Act for the Implementation of Provisions of Union Law on the School Fruit, Vegetables and Milk Scheme (Agricultural products - School Scheme Act - LwErzgSchulproG) and the Regulation Implementing Participation by the Federal States in the School Agricultural Product Scheme (Agricultural products - School scheme - Participation Regulation - LwErzgSchulpro - TeilnV) have been adopted as a legal basis for the participation of Federal States and coordination of the EU school scheme in Germany.</p> <p>Regular meetings of experts are also held at Federal and State level under the chairmanship of the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture to clarify issues over the implementation and performance of the EU school scheme and ensure that information is shared between Federal States</p> <p>The Federal States submit their regional strategies to the EU Commission via the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture.</p> <p><i>2) Central contact for relations with the Commission:</i></p> <p>Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture Department 212 - Nutritional expertise and life stage-based healthy diet, Prevention in the food sector, institutional catering Rochusstraße 1, 53123 Bonn</p>

2. NEEDS AND RESULTS TO BE ACHIEVED

2.1. Identified needs

Article 23(8) of the basic act and Article 2(1) b of the implementing regulation

- 1) Funding of the daily requirement of fruit and vegetables recommended for children
- 2) Funding of the daily requirement of milk and milk products recommended for children

The background to this is the current decline in consumption of fresh fruit and vegetables and dairy products, especially among children, and the increase in overweight children due to consumption trends of highly processed foods that often contain high levels of sugar, salt, fat and other additives. The distribution of healthy foods such as fruit, vegetables and dairy products to children in educational institutions should contribute to the promotion of healthy food.

2.2. Objectives and indicators

Article 23(8) of the basic act and Article 2(1)c of the implementing regulation

General objective(s)	Impact indicator(s)	Specific objective(s)	Result Indicator(s)	Output Indicator(s)
Increasing the proportion of fruit/vegetables, milk and, if applicable, milk products in children's diets and developing healthy eating habits	Percentage change in the direct and indirect consumption of fruit, vegetables, milk and, if applicable, milk products by children by the end of the 2022/2023 school year compared to the 2015/2016 school year. Improving healthy eating habits of children to consume fruits, vegetables and milk and, where appropriate, dairy products, and by improving knowledge of	6% increase in the consumption of fruit/vegetables, milk and, if applicable, milk products by children by the end of the 2022/2023 school year compared to the 2015/2016 school year	Percentage of children participating in the school scheme compared to the total number of children in the target group by 2022/2023 compared to 2015/2016	Total number of children participating in the school scheme by 2022/2023 compared to 2015/2016
			Percentage of schools and nurseries participating in the school scheme compared to the total number of schools and nurseries in the target group by 2022/2023 compared to 2015/2016	Total number of schools and nurseries participating in the school scheme by 2022/2023 compared to 2015/2016

	healthy eating and how to handle food.	6% increase in schoolchildren's knowledge of the variety of agricultural products and of healthy eating habits by the end of the 2022/2023 school year compared to the 2015/2016 school year	Percentage of children participating in accompanying educational measures compared to the total number of children in the target group by 2022/2023 compared to 2015/2016. Percentage of schools and nurseries participating in accompanying educational measures compared to the total number of schools and nurseries in the target group by 2022/2023 compared to 2015/2016	Total number of children participating in accompanying educational measures by 2022/2023 compared to 2015/2016. Total number of schools and nurseries participating in accompanying educational measures by 2022/2023 compared to 2015/2016
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2.3. Baseline

Article 23(8) of the basic act and Article 2(1)d of the implementing regulation

Fruit and vegetables

The “Results of the evaluation of the EU school fruit and vegetable scheme in NRW for the school years 2010/2011 to 2015/2016” are being used as a basis of comparison for the objectives and indicators for fruit and vegetables set out under 2.2.

There are around 3 500 primary and special schools with 700 000 children in NRW. According to the evaluation, around 1 100 schools and 210 000 children participated in the school fruit and vegetable scheme in the 2015/2016 school year. Around 33% of the schools entitled to participate and around 30% of the schoolchildren entitled to participate were therefore reached in the 2015/2016 school year.

Milk

The figures provided by the Federal State Office for Nature, the Environment and Consumer Protection are used as a basis for the objectives and indicators for milk and milk products set out under 2.2. 2 540 schools (out of a total of around 5 800 entitled

schools in NRW) with 165 000 schoolchildren (out of a total of around 2 450 000 children) and 3 100 nurseries (out of around 9 900 nurseries) with 43 000 children (out of around 575 000 children) participated in the 2015/2016 school year. This means that around 44% of schools with around 7% of schoolchildren participated. 31% of nurseries and 7.5% of nursery children also participated.

3. BUDGET

3.1. Union aid for the school scheme

Article 23a of the basic act and Article 2(1)e of the implementing regulation

EU aid for the school scheme (in EUR)	Period 1/8/2017 to 31/7/2023		
	School fruit and vegetables	School milk	Common elements if applicable
Distribution of school fruit and vegetables/school milk	EUR 32 211 226.67	EUR 14 527 165.02	
Accompanying educational measures	-	-	
Monitoring, evaluation, publicity	-	-	
Total	EUR 32 211 226.67	EUR 14 527 165.02	
Overall total	46 738 391.68		

3.2. National aid granted, in addition to Union aid, to finance the school scheme			
Article 23a(6) of the basic act and Article 2(2)d of the implementing regulation			
No		<input type="checkbox"/>	
Yes		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
If yes, amount (in national currency)	Fruit/vegetables	Milk/milk products	
		Milk/milk products other than Annex V	Annex V products
Supply/distribution	Around 2 000 000 *	-	-
Accompanying educational measures	460 000 **		
Monitoring, evaluation, publicity	390 000 **		
Total	2 850 000		
* If applicable, Federal State funds will be provided for the fruit and vegetables part of the scheme			
** Estimated figures, calculation based on previous schemes:			
All statements are on the proviso that corresponding budget resources are available from the 2018 budget year onwards.			

The national NRW funds for accompanying educational measures and monitoring, evaluation, publicity refer to fruits / vegetables and milk / dairy products.

3.3. Existing national schemes	
Article 23a(5) of the basic act and Article 2(2)e of the implementing regulation	
No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
– Extension of the target group	<input type="checkbox"/>
– Extension of the range of products	<input type="checkbox"/>
– Increased frequency or duration of distribution of products	<input type="checkbox"/>
– Enhanced educational measures (increased number or frequency or duration or target group of those measures)	<input type="checkbox"/>
– Other: please specify (e.g. if products originally not free of charge and that are provided free of charge)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comment/explanatory text	

4. TARGET GROUP/S

Article 23(8) of the basic act and Article 2(1)f of the implementing regulation

School level	Age range of children	School fruit and vegetables	School milk
Nurseries	0 - 6	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Pre-schools		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Primary	Ca. 6 - 9	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Secondary	Ca. 10 - 18	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Special schools	Ca. 6 – 9 (School fruit and vegetables) Ca. 6 – 16 (School milk)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Comments:

School fruit and vegetables: Children from primary schools and the primary level of special schools including Years 5 and 6 receive school fruit and vegetables.

Schools are licensed, amongst other things, according to social criteria, that is to say that schools with children from low-income families are prioritised when it comes to licensing. In special schools, decisions may be made over whether to fund other years due to special circumstances (inter-year teaching) on a case-by-case basis. Given the funds available, other years of special schools and other schools may also be licensed.

School milk: Children in nurseries and children in primary schools, special schools and other schools receive school milk. No further priorities are applied.

There are several reasons for the different target groups: The previous separate programs have been in place for a long time. They were designed differently and had different target groups. In addition, there are individual children participating in milk program, while whole schools and classes are involved in fruit / vegetables. For these reasons, in the milk part, the target groups can be broader, i.e. that KiTas can also participate in the milk program. This is not possible in the fruit / vegetables part, as financial resources are not sufficient.

In NRW, there are no pre-schools.

5. LIST OF PRODUCTS DISTRIBUTED UNDER THE SCHOOL SCHEME

Article 23(9) of the basic act and Article 2(1)g of the implementing regulation

5.1. Fruit and vegetables

5.1.1. Fresh fruit and vegetables - Article 23(3)a of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013

Apricots, cherries, peaches, nectarines, plums	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Carrots, turnips, salad beetroot, salsify, celeriac, radishes and other edible roots	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Apples, pears, quinces	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cabbages, cauliflowers and other edible brassicas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Bananas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Berries	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cucumbers, gherkins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Figs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lettuces, chicory and other leaf vegetables	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Grapes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lentils, peas, other pulses	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Melons, watermelons	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tomatoes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Citrus fruit	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other vegetables: please specify: Pumpkins, peppers, rhubarb, celery, asparagus, courgettes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tropical fruit	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Other fruit: Kiwis, mirabelles, plums and the like	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

Eligible are fresh, raw fruits and vegetables, including ready-to-eat, piece-cut and/or packaged fruit and vegetable products (e.g. packed apple wedges).

For the care of the children, primarily fruit and vegetables according to the above list are to be supplied.

Excluded are products with added sugar, added fat, added salt or added sweeteners.

Shell fruits (nuts, such as hazelnuts, walnuts, peanuts, almonds, etc.) are not eligible for funding.

5.1.2. Processed fruit and vegetables – Article 23(4)a of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013

Products distributed under the school scheme		Added salt			Added fat			Comments (optional)
		No	Yes		No	Yes		
Fruit juices	<input type="checkbox"/>							
Fruit purées, compotes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>If yes, please indicate the limited quantity</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>If yes, please indicate the limited quantity</i>	
Jams, marmalades	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>			
Dried fruits	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>			
Vegetable juices	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>			
Vegetable soups	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>			
Other: please specify	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>			
.....								

No processed products made of fruit and vegetables are provided, only fresh fruit and vegetables.

5.2. Milk and milk products

5.2.1. Milk - Article 23(3)b of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013

Drinking milk and lactose-free versions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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5.2.2. Milk products - Article 23(4)b of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013

Products distributed under the school scheme	Added salt			Added fat			Comments (optional)
	No	Yes		No	Yes		
Cheese and curd	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
			<i>If yes, please indicate the limited quantity</i>			<i>If yes, please indicate the limited quantity</i>	
Plain yoghourt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Fermented or acidified milk products without added sugar, flavouring, fruits, nuts or cocoa	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			

Amendment: Since school year 2018/ 2019 it is not possible anymore to distribute cheese and curd, fermented or acidified milk products without added sugar, flavouring, fruits, nuts or cacao.

The products contain 1.5 % fat up to natural fat content.

5.2.3. Milk products - Annex V to Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013

Products to be distributed under the school scheme	Added salt				Added fat			Added sugar
	No	Yes			No	Yes		
Category I (milk component $\geq 90\%$). Fermented milk products without fruit juice, naturally flavoured	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>If yes, please indicate the limited quantity</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>If yes, please indicate the limited quantity</i>	Up to 7%
Category I (milk component $\geq 90\%$). Fermented milk products with fruit juice, naturally flavoured or non-flavoured	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Up to 7%
Category I (milk component $\geq 90\%$). Milk-based drinks with cocoa	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Up to 7%
Category II (milk component $\geq 75\%$). Fermented or non-fermented milk products with fruit, naturally flavoured or non-flavoured	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Up to 7%

Since school year 2019/2020 it is not possible anymore to distribute these products under the EU school scheme.

Schools are free to choose offering other dairy products without any subsidy.

5.2.4. Prioritisation of fresh fruit and vegetables and drinking milk

Article 23(3) of the basic act

1) Only fresh fruit and vegetables are offered under the school scheme in North Rhine-Westphalia.

2) Since school year 2019/20 only drinking milk and plain yogurt is offered in nurseries and schools.

Reference is also made in information materials to the importance of drinking milk (without added sugar and other additives) for a healthy diet. In a special brochure on school fruit and vegetable and milk for teachers, parents and pupils the benefits of pure milk over milk products such as cocoa are explicitly emphasised. The institutions participating in the school scheme are explicitly informed on the official homepage of the school scheme (www.schulobst-milch.nrw.de) about the preference for drinking milk.

5.3. Other agricultural products in the educational measures

Article 23(7) of the basic act and Article 2(1)g of the implementing regulation

Yes		No
<input type="checkbox"/>	Please list the products	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

5.4. Criteria for the choice of products distributed under the school scheme and any priorities for the choice of those products

Article 23(11) of the basic act and Article 2(2)a of the implementing regulation

Health considerations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Environmental considerations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Seasonality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Variety of products	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Availability of local or regional produce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Any comments – including e.g. on the required quality of products: The fruit has to be fresh, ripe enough to eat, undamaged and free of foreign bodies and has to meet the relevant marketing standards and hygiene requirements.	
Any priority/ies for the choice of products:	
Local or regional purchasing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Organic products	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Short supply chains	<input type="checkbox"/>
Environmental benefits (please specify: <i>e.g. food miles, packaging ...</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Products recognised under the quality schemes established by Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fair-trade	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other: please specify	

Any comments	
Regional and seasonal varieties of fruit and vegetables, organic products and fair-trade products are also to be considered wherever possible.	

6. ACCOMPANYING EDUCATIONAL MEASURES

Article 23(10) of the basic act and Article 2(1)j of the implementing regulation

A few examples of accompanying measures for the school scheme in NRW are provided below:

Title	Objective	Content
Online-brochure of school fruit and vegetables and school milk and dairy products	Informations on the school scheme for parents, schools and children.	These brochure contains informations on the school scheme and on fruit and vegetables and milk and milk products as part of a healthy diet, and tips to be followed at home and information on accompanying measures.
Farmers visiting schools / school teaching / lessons given by experts	Informing and raising the awareness of children and parents	The farmers are to provide an introduction to the use both of milk and milk products and of fruit and vegetables through school teaching and the provision of information in schools relating to the practical handling of food and the consumption of prepared meals. This also includes lessons such as “A healthy breakfast with milk and fruit” and parents evenings.
Optional: teaching material from third parties (e.g. Bundeszentrum für Ernährung, Verbraucherzentralen Bundesverband) Offer is presented on the school scheme website.	Teaching material	The topics range from hygiene to preparation of foods, to getting know regional foods and their production.
Project: “Acquired a taste...” Educational offer of the Verbraucherzentrale NRW primary and special schools participating in the school program	Children train their perception, discover tastes and aversions of taste and get to know the variety of food.	At the six stations of the taste and sensory course, the children can exercise tasks to different food groups.

Project: Milk parkour	Exercise for children	Milk parkour is an age-appropriate exercise and activity arena which is based on the latest trend for the sport of “parkour”. It involves overcoming obstacles of varying levels of difficulty. The sports equipment required for this has been constructed for activity days in the schools’ own sports halls. Two trained instructors guide schoolchildren through the parkour. In the Milk Lounge, staff teach schoolchildren and teachers about the right food to eat as part of everyday school life.
Project: Discover milk / cookery event	Familiarisation, tasting and cooking for children	Try Milk or Discover Milk comprises a media package for primary school teachers which enables step-wise learning around the subject of a “healthy diet with milk, vegetables and fruit” based on the working steps of “familiarisation”, “tasting” and “consolidating/fixing”. The contents of the handout are also to be implemented in practice by schoolchildren in school. In addition to up to 10 cookery events, there is also to be a primary school cooking competition.

All of the measures listed are described on the www.schulobst-milch.nrw.de website. They are adapted over the course of the scheme in order to take account of any new findings to make sure the measures are still appealing.

It is ensured that all schools receive information material on the school fruit and vegetables part as well as on school milk part (here also the day-care centres) as accompanying educational measures.

In addition more accompanying measures are available. The selection and implementation of these measures is in the hands of schools and day-care centres.

The educational material accompanying the school scheme is based on the food and dietary nutritional guidelines of the DGE (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Ernährung e. V.). The educational material has its focus on healthy eating habits, especially on a healthy breakfast. Therefore milk and milk products are a main part in this meal also as fruit, vegetables, bread and cereals.

7. ARRANGEMENTS FOR IMPLEMENTATION

7.1. Price of school fruit and vegetables/milk

Article 24(6) of the basic act and Article 2(1)h of the implementing regulation

School fruit and vegetables are provided to children free of charge.

No products are provided free of charge under the school milk part of the scheme, they are only provided to participating children in return for payment of a maximum sale price. Different subsidy rates were paid for the respective categories. In categories in which the milk content is lower, the subsidy rate per 100 kg is also lower. In the 2017/2018 school year, as before in the previous EU school milk scheme, €18.15 have been paid per 100 kg of drinking milk and lactose-free drinking milk and category I products (milk, 90% by weight of milk), while just €16.34 will be paid per kg for category II products (yoghurt, at least 75% by weight of milk).

In school year 2018/19 subsidy rates were paid by allocating to milk three times the rate of subsidy rate to cocoa-milk. In school year 2019/20 maximum subsidy rate that is possible in account of the number of children in Northrhine-Westfalia will be paid for milk and yogurt. This is currently 24 cent subsidy rate for 250 ml drinking milk and the price for the children is 20 Cent. The price for 500 ml yoghurt is 1 € for the children and 23 Cent subsidy rate for example.

7.2. Frequency and duration of distribution of school fruit and vegetables/milk and of accompanying educational measures

Article 23(8) of the basic act and Article 2(2)b of the implementing regulation

Envisaged frequency of distribution:

	School fruit and vegetables	School milk
Once per week	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Twice per week	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Three times per week	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Four times per week	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Daily	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other: please specify	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Any comments:		

Envisaged duration of distribution:

	School fruit and vegetables	School milk
≤ 2 weeks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
> 2 and ≤ 4 weeks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
> 4 and ≤ 12 weeks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
> 12 and ≤ 24 weeks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
> 24 and ≤ 36 weeks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Entire school year	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Any comment: If applicable, further Federal State funds may be provided for the fruit/vegetables part of the scheme. The number of weeks will then be increased.		

Envisaged duration of accompanying educational measures during the school year:

(please indicate the number of hours or shortly explain/comment)

The number of hours cannot be stated at the present time because the measures vary greatly in length and a precise calculation has not yet been carried out for the coming period (6 years). If need be, details can be provided in due course.

It is possible to say, by way of example, that about 248 farmers' activities in units of about 4 school periods are being carried out in 2017.

7.3. Timing of distribution of school fruit and vegetables/milk

Article 23(8) – and 23a(8) if supply in relation to the provision of other meals – of the basic act and Article 2(2)b of the implementing regulation

Envisaged timing of distribution during the day (*please tick one or more of the checkboxes below*):

	School fruit and vegetables	School milk
Morning/morning break(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Lunchtime	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Afternoon/afternoon break(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Comments:

Fruit/vegetables are provided to children by teaching staff only in the mornings when they are cut up together and consumed as a class breakfast.

Some of the milk is provided by the caretaker and some also in machines so that it can be sold directly to children spread throughout the day.

No reference is made to other mealtimes when either fruit/vegetables or milk is offered.

School milk may be available during the lunch break if appropriate, but is not part of the food provided.

7.4. Distribution of milk products in Annex V to Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013

Article 23(5) of the basic act, Article 5(3) of the fixing regulation (No 1370/2013), Article 2(2)f of the implementing regulation

No

Yes

Since school year 2019/20.

7.5. Selection of suppliers

Article 23(8) of the basic act and Article 2(1)l of the implementing regulation

Upon application, the suppliers responsible for providing products under the EU school scheme are licensed to participate in the school scheme by the granting authority, the Federal State Office for Nature, the Environment and Consumer Protection. Reliability under hygiene law is checked for the purposes of licensing and the applicant undertakes to comply with EU school scheme requirements.

Schools and nurseries search for suppliers on the published list of licensed suppliers.

7.6. Eligible costs

7.6.1. Reimbursement rules

Article 23(8) of the basic act and Article 2(1)i of the implementing regulation

In the fruit and vegetables part of the school scheme, suppliers receive a subsidy according to a fixed price charged per 100 g of fruit and vegetables. This is adjusted every 2 years by an independent institute on the basis of market price surveys and includes prices for a basket of goods and logistical costs.

In the milk part of the scheme, suppliers are paid corresponding subsidy rates per 100 kg of eligible products in categories I and II respectively (see section 7.1).

Milk part of the scheme: The receipt of aid is conditional upon the provision of milk products at a stipulated maximum sale price.

The basis for calculation of maximum sale prices is the costs incurred by suppliers for the production, delivery and sale of the products under the school scheme. These are laid down in a verifiable manner and collected by an independent institute. The sales proceeds, the production costs and the costs incurred alongside production costs (such as warehousing costs, refrigeration costs, caretaker remuneration, staff costs, etc.) of a number of suppliers have been calculated. The maximum sale prices have then been calculated in light of the subsidy rate.

Including a number of suppliers means that maximum sale prices are determined in a reasonable way.

7.6.2. Eligibility of certain costs

Article 23(8) of the basic act and Article 2(2)b of the implementing regulation

7.7. Involvement of authorities and stakeholders

Article 23(6) and (9) of the basic act and Article 2(1)k of the implementing regulation

The Ministry for the Environment, Agriculture, Nature and Consumer Protection responsible for the EU school scheme is also responsible for healthy diets, so this aspect is taken into consideration. The school scheme is also carried out in close cooperation with the Ministry of Education.

For the school year 2019/20 the list of eligible products (fruit, vegetables, milk and dairy products) is approved by the Ministry of Labor, Health and Social Affairs of North-Rhine-Westphalia. Without changes in the content, the list will be valid also for the next school years.

The Federal State Office for Nature, the Environment and Consumer Protection is responsible for implementing the school scheme as the delegated granting authority. The Federal State Office for Nature, the Environment and Consumer Protection (LANUV) processes all applications from suppliers. Accordingly, there is very close coordination between the relevant ministry and the LANUV over the scheme and its implementation, including coordination over the strategy.

Accompanying educational measures are carried out together with Verbraucherzentrale NRW, the Dairy Association and farmers and other partners.

As part of a dialogue event in the school year 2018/19 on the topic of sugar-sweetened cocoa, key stakeholders (eg German Diabetes Center, Consumer Advice Center NRW, German Nutrition Society) were involved in a process that is to be continued on a continuous basis. Additionally, a detailed survey concerning this topic will be conducted for parents and students in the school year 2018/2019.

Agreements are also being made with the Chamber of Agriculture (as the EU payment office) regarding implementation and monitoring.

7.8. Information and publicity

Article 23a(8) of the basic act and Article 2(1)m of the implementing regulation

Remaining posters relating the school fruit and vegetables part of the scheme were distributed to participating schools and nurseries at the start of the new school year 2017/2018 and the poster for the school milk part of the scheme was available as a download. Since school year 2018/2019 there is one updated poster for school fruits, vegetable and milk.

Since 2018/2019 there exists an online-brochure for the school fruit, vegetables and milk scheme. The brochure is available for download at www.schulobst-milch.nrw.de.

The www.schulobst-milch.nrw.de website is online since school year 2017/2018.

7.9. Administrative and on-the-spot checks

Article 2(2)g of the implementing regulation

The EU school scheme is implemented through the NRW Chamber of Agriculture as the EU payment office. The Federal State Office for Nature, the Environment and Consumer Protection is the delegated granting authority that is responsible for administrative checks.

The on-the-spot checks are carried by the LANUV on behalf of the EU payment office. Both schools and suppliers are subject to these on-the-spot checks.

7.10. Monitoring and evaluation

Article 2(2)g of the implementing regulation

The annual monitoring measures are derived from Art. 2(2)(g) of the Implementing Regulation in conjunction with Art. 9 of Regulation No 2017/40.

Monitoring is usually carried out by the LANUV. Reports are submitted to the relevant national authority, the Federal Institute for Agriculture and Food.

Tenders are invited for a 6-year contract, with annual interim reports also to be submitted here. The results of the invitation to tender are evaluated and checked to see whether the aims of the scheme and of the strategy can be achieved. Adjustments are made during the further course of the scheme if applicable.