



Lower Saxony Ministry  
of Food, Agriculture and  
Consumer Protection



**STRATEGY FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SCHOOL SCHEME IN GERMANY  
FROM 2017/2018 TO 2022/2023 SCHOOL YEAR  
REGION: LOWER SAXONY**

**DATE: 30.06.2017, Amended 20.12.2017**

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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>1) 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>2) <i>Central contact for relations with the Commission:</i>          Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture          Department 212 - Nutritional Prevention, Nutritional Information</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

The Research Institute of Child Nutrition recommends between 200 and 250 g of fruit and vegetables a day as part of a healthy diet in the corresponding age groups.

Only just over a third of girls and a good quarter of boys aged between six and eleven meet these recommendations. It is striking that, in all age groups, boys eat less fruit and vegetables than girls.

Milk contains many important minerals that are particularly easy for the human body to use and are important for healthy development, particularly at a young age. The daily requirement of 600 – 1 200 mg of calcium can be met, for example, by drinking a portion of milk.

The Centre of Excellence for Health Promotion and Prevention recommends that, depending on the age group, children and young people drink between 100 and 200 ml of milk a day.

Staff in schools and day care centres are also increasingly noticing that children are arriving in the morning without having had any breakfast and without a healthy morning meal.

In short, children are not consuming enough fruit and vegetables or milk.

The problem outlined above should be addressed as follows in the following order of priority.

1. Improvement in the consumption of the daily amount of fruit, vegetables and milk recommended for children of primary school age
2. Improvement in the consumption of the daily amount of milk recommended for children of pre-school age
3. Development of healthy eating habits
4. Increasing the importance of a healthy diet in participating educational establishments

## **2.2. Objectives and indicators**

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

The implementation of the EU school scheme in Lower Saxony is intended to increase children's consumption of fruit, vegetables and milk. The distribution of more appealing fruit, vegetable and milk products directly to schools and the distribution of milk to day care centres is intended to break children's usual pattern of consumption and make a positive change towards a more balanced diet, even outside school and day care centre hours.

Since taste preferences and aversions develop when children are at a young age and are significantly influenced by family and the social environment (day care centres/school), the EU school scheme can help:

1. to have a positive, long-lasting influence on children's pattern of consumption through the availability of fresh fruit, vegetables and milk in schools;
2. to have a positive, long-lasting influence on children's pattern of consumption through the availability of milk in day care centres;
3. to increase children's acceptance of fruit, vegetables and milk (at school/at home) by providing a varied range of snacks;
4. to increase children's knowledge of the different types of fruit, vegetables and milk, particularly regional and seasonal aspects and the numerous tastes, and teach them preparation skills;
5. to make a contribution to developing healthy behaviour and skills among children at an young age.

Children should get to know and try out regional and seasonal types of fruit and vegetables as well as milk and organic products. By setting out to integrate the subjects of nutritional and consumer education into school education, the EU school scheme has the potential to

include all children in the target group irrespective of their cultural background or their socio-economic status and improve their technical and practical skills.

At day care centres, the subjects of nutritional and consumer education in relation to milk are to be included in the educational concept and made part of daily life at the centre. This makes it possible to reach all children who regularly attend day care centres.

<b>General objective(s)</b>	<b>Impact indicator(s)</b>	<b>Specific objective(s)</b>	<b>Result Indicator(s)</b>	<b>Output Indicator(s)</b>	
Increasing the proportion of fruit/vegetables/milk in children's diets and developing healthy eating habits	Change in the direct and indirect consumption of fruit/vegetables/milk by children after the age of 4  -Increased knowledge on growth of fruit and vegetable products;  -Increased knowledge on regional/seasonal fruit/vegetables products;  -increased knowledge on the possibilities to use fruit/vegetables/dairy products;  -increased knowledge on the relevance of healthy diets;  -increased knowledge on the recommended consumption volumes (fruits/vegetables/milk)  -increase of knowledge of the production of milk/milk products	Increasing the consumption of fruit/vegetables/milk by schoolchildren <u>and</u> of milk by children at day care centres	Percentage of children participating in the school scheme per school year compared to the total number of children in the target group	Number of children participating in the school scheme per school year	
			Percentage of educational establishments participating in the school scheme per school year compared to the total number of educational establishments in the target group	Number of educational establishments participating in the school scheme per school year	
				Quantities of fruit/vegetables/milk (quantity or portions) distributed per school year	
			Increasing children's knowledge of the variety of agricultural products and of healthy eating habits	Percentage of children participating in accompanying educational measures per school year compared to the total number of children in the target group	Number of children participating in accompanying educational measures per school year  Number of schoolchildren who have obtained the "Nutrition licence"  Number of schoolchildren who have learned about (participated in activities related to) food waste
					Expenditure on educational measures per school year

### 2.3. Baseline

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

As was revealed in the nationwide Health Survey for Children and Adolescents (KiGGS), the number of children and young people who are overweight or obese has increased to such an extent in recent years that 15% of all children and young people between the ages of 3 and 17 are regarded as overweight and 6.3% of all children and young people are even regarded as obese. There has been a clear increase in the number of overweight children from the age of 7 here, i.e. when they reach school age. Children and young people with an immigrant background and from families with low socio-economic status are also at greater risk of being overweight or obese [1,2]<sup>1</sup>.

Evidence of this trend in Lower Saxony is provided by data from the 2015 school entry health examination: Overall, a good 10.4% of children in Lower Saxony are already overweight or obese by the time they reach school age [3]<sup>2</sup>. The school entry health examination also revealed that children were increasingly (2015: 10.4% of children) entering school life poorly provided for and undernourished.

The eating habits of children and young people have been investigated as part of the EsKiMo study as a subsidiary module of KiGGS. It was found that children and young people are not eating enough fruit and vegetables or drinking enough milk, but at the same time they are eating too much meat and meat products, snacks and confectionary and drinking too many soft drinks containing sugar [4]<sup>3</sup>. The consumption of fruit, vegetables and milk, however, is too low and the recommended daily quantities are only achieved by a small proportion of children and young people.

To improve health, the consumption of types of fruit and vegetables and of milk products with high nutritional values should therefore be promoted. Since children's school years are particularly influential on forming their eating habits, the EU school scheme should help to increase the consumption of these products and children's awareness of a healthy diet. A permanent change in eating habits towards a healthier and more sensible diet can also be achieved outside the education system.

## 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

*Please fill in the table below with the estimated breakdown of funds (=amounts resulting from the maximum percentage of the indicative allocation over the 6-year period of implementation for the main components of the scheme).*

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<sup>1</sup> [1] Kurth B-M, Schaffrath AR: *Die Verbreitung von Übergewicht und Adipositas bei Kindern und Jugendlichen in Deutschland. Ergebnisse des ersten bundesweiten Kinder- und Jugendgesundheits surveys (KiGGS)*. Bundesgesundheitsblatt 50 (2007) 736-743 and [2] RKI - Robert Koch Institute (ed.): *Erste Ergebnisse der KiGGS-Studie zur Gesundheit von Kindern und Jugendlichen in Deutschland*. Berlin, December (2006) [www.rki.de](http://www.rki.de).

<sup>2</sup> [3] NLGA - Lower Saxony Health Authority (ed.): *Kindergesundheit im Einschulungsalter. Ergebnisse der Schuleingangsuntersuchung 2015. Gesundheitsberichterstattung für Niedersachsen*. Hanover (2017) [www.nlga.niedersachsen.de](http://www.nlga.niedersachsen.de)

<sup>3</sup> [4] Mensink GBM, Bauch A, Vohmann C et al.: *Ernährungsstudie als KiGGS-Modul (EsKiMo) - Forschungsbericht, Berlin (2007)*; Further information: [www.rki.de](http://www.rki.de)

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	14 239 490.82	5 838 460.70	
Accompanying educational measures			
Monitoring, evaluation, publicity <sup>4</sup>			
Total	14 239 490.82	5 838 460.70	-
Overall total	20 077 951.52		

NB: The actual annual funding requirement is higher than the provisional budget for indicative allocation. The additional funding requirement is being registered under the application procedure according to Article 3(a)(iii) of Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/39 of 3 November 2016.

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<sup>4</sup> Member States wishing to provide a more detailed breakdown (monitoring, evaluation, publicity, costs for transport and distribution insofar as they are not covered by expenditure for the supply/distribution of school fruit and vegetables/milk) may add lines for the estimated sub-total expenditure.



**3.2. National aid granted, in addition to Union aid, to finance the school scheme<sup>5</sup>**

Article 23a(6) of the basic act and Article 2(2)d of the implementing regulation

<b>No</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>Yes</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
If yes, amount (in national currency)	<b>Fruit/vegetables</b>	<b>Milk/milk products<sup>6</sup></b>	
		Milk/milk products other than Annex V	Annex V products
Supply/distribution	EUR 9 000 000		
Accompanying educational measures	EUR 450 000	See explanation under 4th indent	
Monitoring, evaluation, publicity	EUR 300 000		
<b>Total</b>	<b>EUR 9 750 000</b>		

Comment/explanatory text (e.g. name of the national aid, legal basis, duration).

- Legal basis: Guidelines on the granting of aid to promote the distribution of fruit and vegetables to children in the Free Hanseatic City of Bremen and in the Federal State of Lower Saxony – from the 2017/18 school year onwards.

- National funds are primarily being used to top up the “fruit and vegetable scheme components” because demand from interested educational establishments is greater than can be met using the EU funds available. In addition, the accompanying educational measures for school fruit and vegetables should also be financed by national funds.

- School milk accompanying measures are carried out by the Lower Saxony Regional Dairy Association - Landesvereinigung der Milchwirtschaft Niedersachsen e.V. (LVN). The Lower Saxony Regional Dairy Association (LVN) is a state-recognized association and as such, among others, has been entrusted with the provision of educational accompanying measures for schools and day-care centers of Lower Saxony.

<sup>5</sup> National or regional level

<sup>6</sup> The higher level of detail than in table under section 3.1, with a separate category for Annex V products, is meant to capture more precisely information on implementation of the school scheme: the limitation of Union aid to the milk component of Annex V products, set out in Article 23(5) of the basic act, entails per se national aid if a parental contribution is not required. This may not be the case for other milk products, hence the separate column.

The pedagogical accompanying measures carried out by the LVN, which are used under the EU school scheme, are recognised by the Lower Saxony Lower Ministry of Culture and will be presented on the platform [www.dieinitiative.de](http://www.dieinitiative.de).

- The costs of monitoring, evaluation, publicity and administration for both components of the scheme are to be covered using available Federal State funds under budget implementation.

**NB:**

All statements made regarding the budget resources of the Federal State of Lower Saxony are provisional until a final and binding decision has been made by the Lower Saxony State Parliament. However, continuous implementation is the aim.

**3.3. Existing national schemes**

Article 23a(5) of the basic act and Article 2(2)e of the implementing regulation

<b>No</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Yes</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>If yes (=existing national schemes extended or made more effective through Union aid under the school scheme), please indicate the arrangements to ensure added value of the school scheme through<sup>7</sup>:</i>	
- 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	

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<sup>7</sup> One or more

#### 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		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pre-schools	3 - 6	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Primary	6 - 10	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Secondary	6 - 12	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Comments

The target group for the EU school scheme in Lower Saxony consists of children at

- Primary schools (Years 1 to 4)
- Special schools (Years 1 to 6)
- Federal State education centres (Years 1 to 6)
- Day care centres (3 to 6 years of age)

In justified exceptional cases, where inter-year education is provided, years above those specified above may also be included in the target group.

In Lower Saxony, a total of around 300 000 children were able to get fresh fruit and vegetables and/or milk in school and around 183 000 children are able to get milk at day care centres under the EU school scheme.

Fruits and vegetables: Due to the limited budget, not all interested schools can be retained for participation in a full school year. In order to maintain the level reached in the EU School Fruit and Vegetables Program (distribution of 3 x 100g portions in full school weeks of a school year), a selection of participating schools according to regional and social criteria is required. An extension of the participation would lead to a further restriction of the participating educational establishments.

Given the limited budget available and the fact that compulsory education allows all children in the age group 6-10 to be reached, a restriction has been made in the age group of the beneficiary children.

Milk: In the previous EU school milk scheme both schoolchildren and children in day-care facilities were eligible for aid. A limitation of the number of participants due to limited EU funds was not possible until now, since the conditions were met to be eligible for aid. In that regard, Lower Saxony has decided not to restrict the number of participants in the milk part of the new school program.

## 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

Fresh fruit and vegetables, including bananas, and (heat-treated) drinking milk are eligible for funding. Products from the local region, seasonal products and organic products are to be considered wherever possible here.

The highest health authority has endorsed the use of the products. Processed products with:

- added sugar,
- added fat,
- added salt,
- added sweeteners

are excluded.

### 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 type="checkbox"/>
Bananas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Berries	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cucumbers, gherkins	
Figs	<input 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 type="checkbox"/>
Citrus fruit	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other vegetables: please specify <sup>8</sup>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tropical fruit <sup>9</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Peas, fennel, peppers, parsnips, courgettes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other fruit: please specify	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Pineapples, kiwis, oranges, mandarins, clementines, mangoes			

The list of fruit and vegetables, taking particular account of seasonal aspects and regional specialities, is to serve as a guide when choosing types of fresh fruit and vegetables. It is an exhaustive list. The list of products eligible for funding under the EU school scheme is drawn up and published by the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection responsible for Lower Saxony by individual decree for the school year. The products authorised according to CN codes may be used to guide selection (Annex I, Part IX of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013).

The selection of products eligible for aid in the ‘school fruit and vegetables’ part of the scheme has been made in accordance with the CN codes. Further restrictions were taken by

<sup>8</sup> Other agricultural products than fruit and vegetables, as referred to in Article 23(7) of the basic act (e.g. olives), should not be reported here but under section 5.3.1

<sup>9</sup> Pineapples, Avocados, Guavas, Mangos and Mangostines

the Lower Saxony Ministry of Social Affairs as the highest health authority, taking into account the beneficiary children groups and possible adverse effects from the combination of (acid) Citrus fruits with medicines to the children.

5.1.2. Processed fruit and vegetables – Article 23(4)a of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013<sup>10</sup>

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"/>			
.....								

Processed products made of fruit and vegetables are not offered under the EU school scheme in Lower Saxony.

## 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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Drinking milk and lactose-free milk containing various levels of fat and organically or conventionally produced.

<sup>10</sup> 1) Please tick the box for the products to be distributed under the school scheme (e.g. soups) and 2) please tick the box no/yes to indicate if they may contain added salt and/or fat – nb. added sugar is not allowed for those products, according to Article 10 of the Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2017/40 - and remove the box for added salt and/or fat where not relevant (e.g. fruit juices). 3) If yes, please indicate the percentage of added salt and/or fat on the total weight of the product, where such a percentage is set at national level, according to national provisions or for the purposes of the school scheme, or comment.

5.2.2. Milk products - Article 23(4)b of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013<sup>11</sup>

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"/>	<i>If yes, please indicate the limited quantity</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>If yes, please indicate the limited quantity</i>	
Plain yoghourt	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input 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"/>			

*These products are not offered under the EU school scheme in Lower Saxony.*

<sup>11</sup> Please tick the box for the products to be distributed under the school scheme and the box no/yes to indicate if they may contain added salt and/or fat (the table does not mention added sugar, to reflect Article 10 of the Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2017/40 ); please remove the box for added salt and/or fat where not relevant). If yes, please indicate the percentage of added salt and/or fat on total weight (where such a percentage is set according to national provisions or for the purposes of the scheme) or comment.

### 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"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>If yes, please indicate the limited quantity</i>	%
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"/>		%
Category I (milk component $\geq 90\%$ ). Milk-based drinks with cocoa, with fruit juice or naturally flavoured	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		%
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"/>		%

Milk products listed under Annex V are not offered under the EU school scheme in Lower Saxony.

#### 5.2.4. Prioritisation of fresh fruit and vegetables and drinking milk

Article 23(3) of the basic act

Since only fresh unprocessed fruit and vegetables (Section 5.1.1 of the strategy) and heat-treated drinking milk – including lactose-free milk – (Section 5.2.1 of the strategy) are included, there is no need for any explanation of the prioritisation or preference in the strategy.

### 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 type="checkbox"/>
Availability of local or regional produce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Any comments – including e.g. on the required quality of products	
<b>Any priority/ies for the choice of products:</b>	
Local or regional purchasing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Organic products	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Short supply chains	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>
Other: please specify	
Any comments	

#### 6. ACCOMPANYING EDUCATIONAL MEASURES

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

When they apply to participate in the EU school scheme, schools and day care centres participating in the EU school scheme undertake to carry out accompanying educational measures. They can choose from a prescribed catalogue here.

Title	Objective	Content
Eating together during breaks (LVN project)	<i>Improving food knowledge</i>	Promoting the enjoyment of eating breakfast together and improving food knowledge.
Visit to an agricultural business / farm (cooperation with an out-of-school learning centre)	<i>Improving knowledge of food and production processes</i>	Teaching about food and its origin and processing.
Visit by outside experts	<i>Teaching about nutrition and health</i>	Teaching about food, nutrition and exercise to promote health.
(Regular) healthy	<i>Improving knowledge of</i>	Promoting the enjoyment of eating

breakfast - weekly - on 2 to 4 days - daily	<i>food and nutrition</i>	breakfast together and teaching about food and a healthy diet.
“aid Nutrition Licence”	<i>Improving knowledge of food and its preparation</i>	Links theory and practice in nutritional education and offers children the opportunity to get to know important staple foods. The target group is pre-school children.
“School on the move”	<i>Putting more exercise into traditional “sitting schools”</i>	School on the move means changing school through the child-, teacher- and learning-appropriate introduction of rhythm to teaching, through active and independent learning, through active breaks, through active and participatory organisational structures, by opening schools up to the outdoors and through joined-up thinking.
“Class 2000”	<i>Teaching programme for the promotion health and the prevention of addiction and violence in German primary and special schools</i>	Class 2000 takes children from Years 1 to 4. Together with the character by the name of KLARO, children learn about the following subjects through play: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Healthy eating &amp; drinking</li> <li>• Exercise &amp; relaxation</li> <li>• Feeling good about yourself &amp; making friends</li> <li>• Solving problems and resolving conflicts</li> <li>• Thinking critically &amp; being able to say no</li> </ul>
“Learning about healthy living” (GLL)	<i>School health management in Lower Saxony</i>	This is about creating working and learning conditions that promote health and personality, making learning and teaching “healthier” and helping to improve the quality of education and upbringing through health interventions.
Activity days in school	<i>Improving knowledge of nutrition / health</i>	Teaching about food, nutrition and exercise to promote health.
Project day on the subject of nutrition / health	<i>Improving knowledge of nutrition / health</i>	Teaching about food, nutrition and exercise to promote health.
Project week on the subject of nutrition /	<i>Improving knowledge of nutrition / health</i>	Teaching about food, nutrition and exercise to promote health.

health		
Working in the school garden	<i>Improving knowledge of food and its cultivation and harvesting</i>	Teaching about food, its cultivation and harvesting and active involvement of schoolchildren in regular practical gardening.
Cookery working group to improve life skills in the area of nutrition	<i>Improving knowledge of food and its preparation</i>	Teaching about food, nutrition and the preparation of meals.
“Cooking with children” (farmers)	<i>Improving knowledge of food and its preparation</i>	Teaching facts and methods on the subject of nutrition and agriculture and the preparation of simple, healthy meals; the target group is schoolchildren at primary school and Year 6.
Play called Mr Klugschwatz and his crazy milk idea	<i>Improving knowledge of food, particularly milk</i>	Teaching children about milk, agriculture and a healthy diet in the form of a play
Today is milk day	<i>Improving knowledge of food, particularly milk</i>	Links theory and practice in nutritional education and offers children the opportunity to get to know milk as an important staple food in a balanced diet. The target group is pre-school children.
Shake or snack seminars	<i>Improving knowledge of food, particularly milk</i>	Practice-based learning and active doing. Schoolchildren should learn here how milk and milk products can be processed in various ways.
M (notice) charts on nutrition, milk production and agriculture	<i>Improving knowledge of food, particularly milk</i>	Teaching facts and methods on the subject of nutrition and agriculture focusing on milk and milk production in a target group-appropriate form.

With Lower Saxony’s participation in the EU school scheme, the plan is to provide participating educational establishments with a supplementary supply, free of charge to them, in the area of nutritional education measures.

This package is initially intended to consist of following components:

1. A website is set up especially for EU school scheme in Lower Saxony as a “school scheme portal” providing educational establishments, parents and suppliers with information on the EU school scheme in Lower Saxony. [www.schulprogramm.niedersachsen.de](http://www.schulprogramm.niedersachsen.de)

2. The “Breakfast adventure” flyer containing information for parents on a healthy school breakfast can be requested free of charge by interested educational establishments from the Lower Saxony Ministry for Nutrition, Agriculture and Consumer Protection. The flyer is also available as a free download from the Lower Saxony school scheme portal.

3. The following materials are to be made available free of charge to all schools participating in the “fruit and vegetables” component of the scheme:

- Media package on the “aid Nutrition Licence”

- “For vegetable researchers and fruit detectives” teaching material

If need be, additional teacher training on implementation of the “aid Nutrition Licence” may also be organised at regional level and provided for teachers free of charge.

4. The LVN’s M-charts are also made available to all educational establishments participating in the “milk” component of the scheme free of charge on request.

If need be, additional teacher training and/or child care worker training in relation hereto may be organised and provided at regional level by the LVN.

5. Participating schools are to receive the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture’s “Too good for the bin” materials package free of charge. These materials are to help make schoolchildren aware of the value of food and the consequences of wastage and are to show what they can do to prevent it. The experience and activity section thereof is therefore key: handling food and leftovers and storage.

Educational institutions are basically obliged to document the content of the courses in the respective class book. During the on-the-spot checks, the implementation of the accompanying educational measures will be reviewed. In addition, as part of the online application procedure, participation in the following school year is subject to the educational measures carried out in the previous school year. In the selection of the participating educational institutions for the following school year, the answers to the accompanying educational measures will be considered.

## **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

The products provided under the EU school scheme according to sections 5.1 and 5.2 are distributed to children free of charge and are fully financed through Union aid or national funds.

## 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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>
Other: please specify <sup>12</sup>	<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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Entire school year	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Any comment:		

Envisaged duration of accompanying educational measures during the school year:

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

The materials provided for the implementation of accompanying educational measures are used for joint activities in educational establishments; they can be used on one or more occasion at the educational establishment here. They may take from one to a

<sup>12</sup> E.g. Distribution once every two weeks

number of lessons.

### 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 type="checkbox"/>
Afternoon/afternoon break(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Comments:

In an effort to reduce food wastage, any unconsumed quantities may be made available to children during the supervision period and across different year groups (outside lunchtimes / regular school mealtimes).

### 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**

## **7.5. Selection of suppliers**

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

Schools and day care centres can apply to participate in the EU school scheme in Lower Saxony for the respective school year via an online portal. In addition to the number of children, they also have to state the number of full weeks in the school year. Planned accompanying educational measures also have to be chosen from a brochure during this application process, these then having to be implemented in the school year.

Only those suppliers and/or distributors of products specified in Article 5(2)(c) of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2017/40 can receive funding in Lower Saxony. Recipients of funding have to be licensed within the meaning of Article 6 of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2017/40. The application for a licence as an applicant for the EU school scheme in Lower Saxony is to be submitted to the relevant office of the Lower Saxony Chamber of Agriculture (LWK). The application may be made to supply school fruit and vegetables or school milk or to supply both groups. Licensed suppliers must then supply educational establishments with the respective products from the corresponding school year onwards and submit an application to the LWK for the reimbursement of costs.

Lists containing the names of participating educational establishments and licensed suppliers are published in a further category of the online portal. This means that suppliers and educational establishments can find one another and reach joint agreements on the supply of school fruit and vegetables and school milk (delivery time and frequency, types of products).

## **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

Reimbursement shall be made on proof of the delivered products at a fixed average portion price.

The level of funding for an accounting period is calculated on the basis of the portion price (excluding VAT) per consumption day per benefiting child. The respective portion size of 85 to 100 g of fruit and/or vegetables and/or 200 to 250 ml of milk per consumption day per child has to be complied with for this.

The Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection responsible in Lower Saxony lays down the following parameters for implementation of the EU school scheme in Lower Saxony before the beginning of each school year by individual decree and publishes them at [www.schulprogramm.niedersachsen.de](http://www.schulprogramm.niedersachsen.de):

- Portion price
- Accounting periods
- Consumption days

A higher portion price is granted for organic products provided all supplies to the respective educational establishment (school, day care centre) in an accounting period consist exclusively of organic products.

Which accompanying measures are carried out is up to the discretion of the educational establishment concerned.

The costs related to the implementation of the EU school scheme are reimbursed on the basis of simplified cost options, namely on the basis of lump sums per portion of fruit and vegetables and/or drinking milk. The amount of aid shall be calculated on the basis of the portion price (excluding VAT, exempted for the educational establishments) per day of consumption and benefiting children, on the basis of a portion of 100 g in the case of fruit and vegetables and 250 ml for drinking milk. For organic products an increased portion price is granted, provided that the supplier has supplied exclusively organic products and has applied for billing.

The AMI (Agrarmarkt Informations-Gesellschaft mbH) has calculated on behalf of the competent highest agricultural authority of Lower Saxony reimbursement rates / portion lump sums for the EU school scheme. The calculation of the portion prices for school fruit, vegetables and milk follows a comprehensible method in two steps: First, the portion prices and the net production costs are deducted ex-factory for various portions. Subsequently, the logistic costs for the provision of the products in the educational institutions are modelled. On this basis, an overall assessment of the derived results and a final determination of the portion flat rates / reimbursement rates will be made. The flat rates are set annually before the start of the school year by the highest authority for the implementation of the EU school program and published on the internet at [www.schulprogramm.niedersachsen.de](http://www.schulprogramm.niedersachsen.de).

#### 7.6.2. Eligibility of certain costs

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

Licensed applicants (= suppliers) are only reimbursed the portion prices or prices per kg uniformly calculated beforehand. There is no additional reimbursement of the costs of supply and preparation because these costs are already included in the average portion prices calculated.

### 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 responsible for the EU school scheme in Lower Saxony is the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection.

Interested educational establishments apply to participate in the EU school scheme for the school year concerned before the beginning of the school year using an online procedure put in place by the Federal State of Lower Saxony.

The Lower Saxony Chamber of Agriculture serves as the office responsible for licensing suppliers and processing suppliers' applications for funding. Funds are paid through the EU payment office at the Lower Saxony Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection.

The technical structuring of the EU school scheme (including the regional strategy) is carried out in Lower Saxony in close collaboration with the Ministry of Culture and Health (exchanging of information and opinion).



In the course of programme implementation, an ad hoc involvement of interested and professional parties (including Chambers of Agriculture, School Food Network in Lower Saxony, regional dairy industry association, rural women, professional representations, civil society, and institutions) is carried out.

The Lower Saxony Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection is the highest nutrition authority in Lower Saxony and therefore also involved in the EU school scheme. The highest authority for health (Ministry of Health) is also involved in the implementation of the EU school program.

## **7.8. Information and publicity**

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

A website has been set up especially for EU school scheme in Lower Saxony providing educational establishments, parents and suppliers with information on the EU school scheme in Lower Saxony.

Link: [www.schulprogramm.niedersachsen.de](http://www.schulprogramm.niedersachsen.de).

Reference is made to participation in the EU school scheme in participating educational establishments by the displaying of posters. A corresponding poster is to be developed specifically for this purpose. In the meantime, the existing “EU school fruit and vegetable scheme” poster will continue to be used for the “school fruit and vegetables” component of the scheme and the previous “School milk funding” poster will continue to be used for the “school milk” component of the scheme.

### **7.9. Administrative and on-the-spot checks**

Article 2(2)g of the implementing regulation

The EU school scheme is being carried out in Lower Saxony for the first in the 2017/2018 school year. Control measures consist, according to the provisions of Regulation (EU) No 2017/39, of administrative checks and on-the-spot checks. Both suppliers and educational establishments are examined in on-the-spot checks. The implementation of the EU school scheme is also supervised and monitored by the awarding authority through technical inspection.

The checks cover the areas of performance, organisation and implementation.

### **7.10. Monitoring and evaluation**

Article 2(2)g of the implementing regulation

The scheme is assessed over the entire term. To do this, collected data, surveys and evaluations (over the course of 5 years) are assessed.

The monitoring data are reported by Lower Saxony to the Federal Institute for Agriculture and Food (BLE) each year.

As far as assessment of the scheme is concerned, a request for tenders is first made and then a baseline is ascertained for introduction of the EU school scheme in Lower Saxony. The 5-year period is evaluated on the basis of these data.

Further data for assessment of the scheme will also be gathered in the coming years through the online application process and evaluated each year. This should mean that any adjustments that are required are identified quickly.