# STRATEGY FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SCHOOL SCHEME IN GERMANY FROM 2017/2018 TO 2022/2023 SCHOOL YEAR REGION: BREMEN

**DATE: 07.07.2017, AMENDED ON 20.12.2017** 

2017/2018 SCHOOL YEAR TO 2022/2023 SCHOOL YEAR

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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	
Regional	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.  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.  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.  The Federal States submit their regional strategies to the EU Commission via the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture.  2) Central contact for relations with the Commission: Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture Department 212 - Nutritional Prevention, Nutritional Information

#### 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 eating habits of children and young people have been investigated as part of the EsKiMo study as a subsidiary module of KiGGS (Health Survey for Children and Adolescents). It was found that children and young people are not eating enough fruit and vegetables or drinking enough milk, but are at the same time eating too much meat and too many meat products, snacks and confectionery and drinking to many soft drinks that contain sugar [4]<sup>1</sup>. 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.

Table 1: Recommended consumption of fruit and vegetables per day (sources: [5]<sup>2</sup>)

		Fruit in g	Vegetables in g
Children	6 years of age	200	200
	7-9 years of age	220	220
	10-12 years of age	250	250

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.

It was found in the EsKiMo study that children and young people do not consume enough milk products and therefore do not get enough calcium  $[4]^3$ . The daily requirement of 600 - 1200 mg of calcium can be met, for example, by drinking a portion of milk.

Recommended daily consumption of milk by children and young people (varying according to sources: [6]<sup>5</sup>)

Age	Number	Portion size
	Portions per day	Milk
3 – 6 years of age:	3	100 ml
6 – 10 years of age:	3	100 – 200 ml

The Centre of Excellence for Health Promotion and Prevention recommends that children and young people drink between 100 and 200 ml of milk a day. The recommended daily amount consumed also depends on the age group of the children here.

<sup>1</sup> [4] Mensink GBM, Bauch A, Vohmann C et al.: *Ernährungsstudie als KiGGS-Modul (EsKiMo) - Forschungsbericht*, Berlin (2007): Further information: www.rki.de

<sup>2</sup> [5] FKE - Research Institute of Child Nutrition (ed.): *Empfehlungen für die Ernährung von Kindern und Jugendlichen.* 5th revised edition. Dortmund (2005)

Socio-pedagogical experts are also increasingly noticing that, at schools and day care centres, children are arriving in the morning without having had any breakfast and without a healthy morning meal.

The consumption of fruit, vegetables and milk by children is insufficient. The problem outlined above is to be addressed as follows in the following order of priority.

- 1. Improving the attainment of the recommended daily consumption of fruit and vegetables by children of primary school age (six to ten years of age)
- 2. Improving the attainment of the recommended daily consumption of milk by children of primary school age (six to ten years of age)
- 3. Developing 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 Bremen school scheme is intended to increase children's consumption of fruit, vegetables and milk. The distribution of appealing fruit and vegetable products directly to schools and the distribution of milk to day care centres is intended to break children's established patterns 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 at a young age and are significantly influenced by family and the social environment (day care centres/school), the EU school scheme may help:

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

Children should get to know and try out regional and seasonal kinds of fruit and vegetables as well as milk and organic products. By setting out to integrate the subjects of dietary and consumer education into school education, the EU school scheme has the potential to include all children in the age 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 dietary 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.

General objective(s)	Impact indicator(s)	Specific objective(s)	Result Indicator(s)	Output Indicator(s)
Increasing the proportion of fruit/vegetables/milk in children's diets and developing healthy eating habits	change in the direct or indirect consumption of fruit/vegetables/milk by children after the age of four  The baseline was collected at the beginning of the 2017/18 school year. Reliable figures may not be generated before the end of the school year	Increasing the consumption of fruit/vegetables by schoolchildren and of milk by children at day care centres  The baseline was collected at the beginning of the 2017/18 school year. Reliable figures may not be generated before the end of the school year	Percentage of children participating in the school scheme compared to the total number of children in the target group  Approx. 33.8% of all school children in the target group participate in the EU school scheme for fruit and vegetables component.  Approx. 29% of all Kitachildren in the target group participate in the EU school scheme part milk.  Percentage of educational establishments participating in the school scheme per school year compared to the total number of educational establishments in the target group Approx. 31% of all schools in the target group participate in the EU school scheme (fruit/vegetables).	Number of children participating in the school scheme per school year  12497 children (7121 in the fruit and vegetables component, 5376 in the milk component)  Number of educational establishments participating in the school scheme per school year  80 (29 for fruit and vegetables and 51 for the milk part)

	Approx. 10.8% of all the target group's centres participate in the EU — school scheme (milk).	
		Quantities of fruit/vegetables /milk (quantity or portions) distributed per school year Three times per week 100 g of fruit/vegetable One time per week, up to 250 mg
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  All children participating in the EU school scheme participate also in the accompanying measures.	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

#### 2.3. Baseline

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

As it was revealed in the 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 now regarded as overweight.

This is down to unhealthy eating habits that include the overconsumption of meat, confectionery and soft drinks. The consumption of fruit, vegetables and milk 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 be promoted. Since children's school years are particularly influential in forming their eating habits, the EU school scheme should help to increase the consumption of these products and children's awareness of what constitutes a healthy diet. A permanent change in eating habits leading to a healthier and more sensible diet outside the education system can also be achieved here.

The EU school scheme needs to be carried out continuously in order to achieve any long-term effect. The initial motivation of children and adults when the scheme is introduced in schools and at day care centres is to be harnessed. It then has to be maintained in subsequent years and further instilled in parents through specific communication measures.

The scheme is still in its infancy in Bremen and the experiences of schools, the authorities and suppliers in relation to the scheme are still new. The plan is to carry out qualitative monitoring alongside quantitative feedback from schools in order to identify potential improvements that can be made by the various participants. Through qualitative surveys of participants, for example subject-specific interviews with those responsible in schools, important findings and important aspects relating to the implementation of the scheme which are not mentioned in the standardised quantitative survey can be identified.

### 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

	Perio	d 1/8/2017 to 3	/2017 to 31/7/2023			
EU aid for the school scheme (in EUR)	School fruit and vegetables	and	Common elements if applicable			
Distribution of school fruit and vegetables/school milk	1 090 087.90	472 466.48				
Accompanying educational measures						
Monitoring, evaluation, publicity						
Total	1 090 087.90	472 466.48				
Overall total		1 562 554.3	8			

3.2. National aid granted, in ad scheme <sup>3</sup>	dition to Union a	id, to finance	the school	
Article 23a(6) of the basic act and Artic	le 2(2)d of the impl	ementing regula	tion	
No				
Yes				
If yes, amount (in national currency)		Milk/milk j	products	
	Fruit/vegetables	Milk/milk products other than Annex V	Annex V products	
Supply/distribution				
Accompanying educational measures				
Monitoring, evaluation, publicity				
Total				
Comment/explanatory text (e.g. name of event that national aid is granted to fin (common elements) to report it.		_	· ·	
The accompanying educational measures will be financed from the budget of the schools. No statement can be made at this stage about the level of costs. The funds for carrying out the evaluation will be made available from the budget of the Land. Here again, no statement can be made on the level of expenditure.				

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> National or regional level

3.3. Existing national schemes					
Article 23a(5) of the basic act and Articl	e 2(2)e of the implementing reg	ulation			
No	$\boxtimes$				
Yes					
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>4</sup> :					
Extension of the target group					
Extension of the range of produc					
Increased frequency or duration of the control	of distribution of products				
	- Enhanced educational measures (increased number or frequency or duration or target group of those measures) □				
- Other: please specify (eg. if products originally not free of charge and that are provided free of charge) □					
Comment/explanatory text					

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</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	3-6		
Pre-schools			
Primary	6-10	×	
Secondary	6-12	×	

#### Comments

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

- Primary schools (Years 1 to 4)
- Special education centres known as *Förderzentren* (Years 1 to 6)
- Day care centres (3 to 6 years of age)

There are no pre-schools in Bremen. The children come directly into primary education (primary).

The fruit and vegetable components are made available exclusively to primary schools and special education centres and the milk component is made available to day care centres.

Primary schools will only receive the fruit and vegetables component, as these schools are already able to give milk through a separate programme financed by own resources. The entire budget for the milk component can therefore be made available to children day-care institutions. Since there was no increase in the budget for fruit and vegetables compared to previous years, the target group could not be extended.

In Bremen, a total of around 7 100 children are able to get fresh fruit and vegetables at educational establishments and around 5 400 children are able to get milk at day care centres under the EU school scheme.

#### 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

<u>Fresh fruit and vegetables</u>, including bananas, and (heat-treated) <u>drinking milk</u> are eligible for funding. Seasonal products from the local region and organic products should be considered wherever possible here.

The highest health authority has endorsed the use of these 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,	$\boxtimes$	Carrots, turnips, salad beetroot, salsify, celeriac,	$\boxtimes$
nectarines, plums		radishes and other edible roots	
Apples, pears, quinces	$\boxtimes$	Cabbages, cauliflowers and other edible brassicas	
Bananas	$\boxtimes$		
Berries	$\boxtimes$	Cucumbers, gherkins	X
Figs		Lettuces, chicory and other leaf vegetables	$\boxtimes$
Grapes	$\boxtimes$	Lentils, peas, other pulses	
Melons, watermelons	$\boxtimes$	Tomatoes	$\boxtimes$
Citrus fruit		Other vegetables: please specify <sup>5</sup>	$\boxtimes$
Tropical fruit <sup>6</sup>		Peas, fennel, peppers, parsnips, courgettes	
Other fruit: please specify	$\boxtimes$		
(eg. kiwis, persimmons,			
nuts)			
Pineapples, kiwis, oranges,			
mandarins, clementines,			
mangoes			

The list of fruit and vegetables should, taking particular account of seasonal aspects and regional specialities, serve as a guide when choosing types of fresh fruit and vegetables. It is not an exhaustive list. The list of products eligible for funding under the EU school scheme is drawn up for the school year by the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection responsible for Lower Saxony by individual decree. The products authorised according to CN codes may be used to guide selection (Annex I, Part IX of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013).

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Pineapples, Avocados, Guavas, Mangos and Mangostines

# 5.1.2. Processed fruit and vegetables – Article 23(4)a of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013<sup>7</sup>

Products distributed under the school scheme		Added salt		Added fat			Comments	
the school scheme		No Yes		No	No Yes		(optional)	
Fruit juices								
Fruit purées, compotes				If yes, please indicate the limited quantity			If yes, please indicate the limited quantity	
Jams, marmalades								
Dried fruits								
Vegetable juices								
Vegetable soups								
Other: please specify								
••••								

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

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<sup>1)</sup> Please tick the box for the products to be distributed under the school scheme (eg. 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 (eg. 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. Milk and milk products

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

5.2.1. Whik Thirde 25(5)6 of Regulation (26) 110 1500/2015	
Drinking milk and lactose-free versions	$\boxtimes$

5.2.2. Milk products - Article 23(4)b of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013<sup>8</sup>

Products distributed under the school scheme		Added salt			Added fat			Comments (optional)
		No		Yes	No		Yes	
Cheese and curd				If yes, please indicate the limited quantity			If yes, please indicate the limited quantity	
Plain yoghourt								
Fermented or acidified milk products without added sugar, flavouring, fruits, nuts or cocoa								

These products are not offered under the EU school scheme in Bremen.

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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	Sugui
Category I (milk component ≥90%). Fermented milk products without fruit juice, naturally flavoured				If yes, please indicate the limited quantity			If yes, please indicate the limited quantity	%
Category I (milk component ≥90%). Fermented milk products with fruit juice, naturally flavoured or non-flavoured								%
Category I (milk component ≥90%). Milk-based drinks with cocoa, with fruit juice or naturally flavoured								%
Category II (milk component ≥75%). Fermented or non-fermented milk products with fruit, naturally flavoured or non-flavoured						X		%

#### 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 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
Please list the products	×

5.4. Criteria for the choice of products distributed under the scho any priorities for the choice of those products	ol scheme and
Article 23(11) of the basic act and Article 2(2)a of the implementing regulati	on
Health considerations	$\boxtimes$
Environmental considerations	$\boxtimes$
Seasonality	$\boxtimes$
Variety of products	×
Availability of local or regional produce	$\boxtimes$
Any comments – including eg. on the required quality of products	
Any priority/ies for the choice of products:	
Local or regional purchasing	$\boxtimes$
Organic products	$\boxtimes$
Short supply chains	$\boxtimes$
Environmental benefits (please specify: eg. food miles, packaging)	
Products recognised under the quality schemes established by Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012	
Fair-trade	
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

In order to improve the effectiveness of the EU school scheme and guarantee successful implementation, accompanying measures are provided. According to European Commission guidelines, the accompanying measures should help improve knowledge of what constitutes an appropriate diet, in particular of the healthy effects of regularly consuming fruit, vegetables and milk. In this way, a permanent change in the dietary habits of children should be achieved through the close cooperation of education and healthcare.

When they apply, schools and day care centres participating in the EU school scheme undertake to carry out accompanying educational measures.

Numerous measures are already carried out at school and day care centre level in Bremen to introduce children to a healthy diet and increase the proportion of fresh food and milk in their daily diet.

- Nutrition as a taught subject (provision of health and nutrition skills).
- The Bremen school catering networking agency helps schools with free advice and training in the embedding and organisation of school catering.

Title	Objective	Content
Shared breakfast	Improving knowledge of food, particularly milk	Enjoyment of a shared nursery breakfast encouraged and knowledge of food, particularly milk, improved.
Visit to an agricultural business/farm	Improving knowledge of food, particularly milk, and learning how food/milk is produced	Information on the production of food, particularly milk, and learning about agricultural businesses
Project days/activity days/project weeks on the subject of milk and/or diet at nurseries	Improving knowledge of food, particularly milk	Teaching about food, particularly milk Nutritional education, information on important staple foods and the link between a healthy diet and health

With Bremen's participation in the EU school scheme, the plan is to provide participating schools and day care centres with supplementary material, free of charge to them, in the area of <u>nutritional education measures</u>.

#### This package is initially intended to consist of three components:

- 1. All schools and day care centres participating in the scheme should be provided with a set of "AID nutrition licence" materials and/or AID research instructions: "Exploring milk with inclusive children's groups" free of charge. The M-charts produced by the Lower Saxony Dairy Association (LVN) are also distributed to participating establishments on request.
- 2. All participating schools should receive the "For vegetable researchers and fruit detectives" teaching material specially put together by Aid infodienst e.V. to help encourage the consumption of fruit, vegetables and milk under the EU school scheme. Practice and theory are combined in an enjoyable way and children learn about the different kinds of fruit and vegetables. Preparation and the subject of hygiene are not overlooked here either. This material is supplemented by provision of M-charts produced by the Lower Saxony Dairy Association by means of which almost all subject areas from food production and processing to a healthy diet suitable for children can be included in accompanying educational measures. Particular attention is paid here to subjects surrounding milk.
- 3. In the next nursery year, all participating day care centres will take up the subject of healthy food, particularly the role of milk in a healthy diet, in activity days/project weeks, and establishment-specific schemes will also be implemented. The subject of milk will regularly be taken up with shared breakfasts.

A sampling check will be carried out by a control body in Lower Saxony to see whether the accompanying measures are implemented by the schools and day-care establishments as requested. As Lower Saxony and Bremen jointly implement the EU programme, Bremen does not have a dedicated control body.

### 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 fruit and vegetable and milk portions are provided to children free of charge and are financed in full through Union funding.

#### 7.2. Frequency and duration of distribution of school fruit 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 X Twice per week Three times per week $\boxtimes$ Four times per week Daily П П Other: please specify<sup>9</sup> П Any comments: Envisaged duration of distribution: School milk School fruit and vegetables ≤2 weeks > 2 and $\le 4$ weeks > 4 and $\leq$ 12 weeks П > 12 and $\leq 24$ weeks > 24 and $\le 36$ weeks X X Entire school year П П Any comment: Envisaged duration of accompanying educational measures during the school year: □ (please indicate the number of hours or shortly explain/comment) The accompanying measures are implemented in the annual programme for the establishments relating to the main topic of nutritional education. They supplement lessons and are continually integrated into daily life at day care centres. They take up between one and two hours a week.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Eg. Distribution once every two weeks

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7.5.	I iming of	aistribution	ot school	truit and	vegetables/milk
			0_ 000		

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)	×	×
Lunchtime		
Afternoon/afternoon break(s)		
Comments:		

# 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

If yes, please describe the system for granting Union aid only to the milk component of those products (= if it varies across products according to the milk component or by fixed rates set at national level; is  $27 \in /100 \text{ kg}$  paid or less or does it vary)

#### 7.5. Selection of suppliers

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

Schools and educational establishments can apply to participate in the EU school scheme using an application form and an e-mail address set up specifically for the EU school scheme. In addition to the number of children, they also have to state the length of time by means of the number of full weeks in the school year. Accompanying educational measures which are then to be implemented in the school year also have to be chosen from a brochure during this application process.

The suppliers of school fruit and vegetables and school milk have to apply to the relevant office of the Lower Saxony Chamber of Agriculture (LWK) for a licence as an applicant for the EU school scheme. The application may be made to supply school fruit and vegetables to schools and to supply milk to day care centres. Licensed applicants may then supply educational establishments with the respective products in the corresponding school year and submit an application to the LWK for the reimbursement of costs.

The names of previously approved participating educational establishments and licensed suppliers are published in a further category of the online portal. This means that suppliers and recipients can find one another and reach joint agreements on the supply of school fruit and vegetables and school milk.

#### 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

Only those suppliers and/or distributors of products specified in Article 5(2)(c) of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2017/40 can receive funding in Bremen. Recipients of funding have to have been licensed within the meaning of Article 6 of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2017/40. Licensed suppliers agree the terms of supply with the educational establishments chosen (delivery time and frequency, types of products) and implement the EU school scheme on site.

Funding may be granted if proof is provided of a regular supply, each full school week (five school days), of three portions of optionally at least 85 to 100 g of fruit and/or vegetables per consumption day per child and/or at least 200 to 250 ml of milk (only milk at day care centres). School weeks with fewer than five school days are disregarded. Delivery has to be carried out so that consumption can take place in the morning.

The level of funding is calculated on the basis of the portion price (excluding VAT) per consumption day per benefiting child. A higher portion price is granted for organic products provided all supplies to the respective educational establishment (school, day care centre) in a calendar week consist exclusively of organic products. Portion prices apply throughout the year and are communicated before the start of the school year through the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection responsible for implementing the EU school scheme in Lower Saxony by individual decree and are published on the <a href="www.schulprogramm.niedersachsen.de">www.schulprogramm.niedersachsen.de</a> website. Whether accompanying measures are carried out or, for example, project days or weeks are

organised at the time of consumption is up to the discretion of the educational establishment concerned.

#### 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 or 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 Bremen is the Senator for Children and Education. Organisation and contact with suppliers takes place through the Lower Saxony Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection by means of a cooperation agreement.

The Lower Saxony Chamber of Agriculture serves as the office responsible for receiving applications and licensing suppliers. Participating educational establishments are chosen by the Senator for Children and Education.

The technical structuring of the EU school scheme (including the regional strategy) takes place in Bremen in close collaboration with the Lower Saxony Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection ().

The list of products offered has been drawn up by the Ministry of Agriculture and also applies to Bremen. An exchange of information and opinions shall be held at regular intervals.

Where required, a group of interested parties who are affected in terms of their function is involved in implementing the scheme (including the Chamber of Agriculture, the Bremen school catering networking agency, the Dairy Association, farmers, professional representatives, civil society and sponsors of establishments).

The supervision, regulation and evaluation of the EU school scheme is provided by the neighbour Land Lower Saxony according to state contracts.

The EU school scheme will be closely linked to nutritional education. In this context, schools take advantage of the professional character of the school meals network and take care of the local health insurance funds for healthy eating. The German Cancer Society launches the project "Five on the day" in which the origin, ingredients and processing of fruit and vegetables are raised.

The Senator for Science, Health and Consumer Protection and the Senator for Social Affairs, Youth, Women's Affairs, Integration and Sport of the Land of Bremen were not included with regard to the composition of the list of products, but they were the relevant Ministries of Lower Saxony.

Communication with the suppliers and the controlling the fruit and vegetables and milk component is carried out by the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection Lower Saxony.

#### 7.8. Information and publicity

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

Establishments inform the public of their participation in the EU school scheme by putting up posters. These are displayed where they can be seen by all those connected with the day care centre or school and also encourage those outside to find out about the measure.

The parents of nursery children and schoolchildren are kept continually up to date with the content and focus of the scheme at parents' evenings and consultation days and can thereby influence its structuring.

Nurseries and schools have the option of combining the EU school scheme with the German Cancer Society's "Five-a-day" scheme and of increasing awareness of a healthy diet through fruit, vegetables and milk.

The school catering networking agency acts as a reliable partner on matters of a healthy diet, helps to publicise the EU school scheme and also serves as a contact for outsiders.

#### 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 Bremen for the first time in the 2017/2018 school year. Control measures carried out by the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection consist, according to the provisions of Regulation (EU) No 2017/39, of administrative checks and on-the-spot checks. Both educational establishments and suppliers are examined in on-the-spot checks. The implementation of the EU school scheme is also supervised and monitored by the awarding authority through supervision, increased scrutiny, internal audit and 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. At the start of the 2017/18 school year, a baseline is set by reference to which the extent to which accompanying measures can be carried out in the establishments concerned is ascertained. For Bremerhaven, surveys are carried out in the form of telephone interviews and, for Bremen, the status quo is determined by asking school heads. With respect to nutritional education, the extent to which the components fruit, vegetables and/or milk distributed under the EU school scheme can be linked with services offered by school gardens and/or school kitchens at the establishments concerned is ascertained.