



Free school meals up to CM2

Eat well to grow well, free and responsible school meals.

Dear parents,

Providing free school meals is an important factor that improves solidarity, public health and families' spending power. Our municipal team has gradually been implementing this since 2021. From September 2024, all the children from reception class (*maternelle*) to CM2 will have free school meals. And we are very proud of this.

The lunch break, including a free, high-quality meal, is a real extension of the state education service, and is a universal measure enshrined in the continuity of free public education, which is at the heart of French schools.

The school canteen offers more than a balanced meal: it is a time for educating the palate and learning to eat well and sustainably, but is also a time for pleasure, socialisation and sharing. Saint-Denis is committed to the quality initiative *Mon Restau Responsable* (Eating Responsibly) and is thus taking real steps to serve more 'home-made' dishes and to use organic and label products so as to stop using plastic.

With the implementation of a third vegetarian menu every week, Saint-Denis is taking positive steps to ensure better food and meals that are more respectful of the environment.

In order to be even more effective in the fight against waste, and to provide a better service for the children, it is essential that you reserve their meals.

In this leaflet you will find all the necessary information for you to make reservations. If you need help to sign up, the *mairie* (town hall) has Digital Mediators available all year round who can help you.



Mathieu Hanot
Mayor of Saint-Denis



Leyla Temel
Deputy Mayor for education,
catering and school life,
and childhood

saint-denis.fr



Saint ★
Denis

100% free school meals: compulsory reservation

From the beginning of the 2024-2025 school year, school meals will be free for the 12,000 pupils in the state schools of Saint-Denis, from reception to CM2.

From September 2021 the canteens in infant and elementary schools have been not only free but run differently, so you now need to reserve meals for your child.

Aim: to limit food waste and better organise the service for all the children in school canteens.



How do I reserve a place?

• I reserve for the whole year

I reserve only once

- > by connecting to my personal space on **saintdenisenligne.fr** (reservation section)
- > by completing a paper form (available at the town hall or at your recreation centre reception desk) and delivering it to the town hall or another town hall department

• I reserve, change or cancel according to my needs

- > by connecting to my personal space on **saintdenisenligne.fr** 4 days in advance (from Monday to Friday).
- > by completing a paper form (available at the town hall or at your recreation centre reception desk) and delivering it to the town hall or another town hall department at least 8 days in advance (from Monday to Friday).

• If I have reserved a place but my child is absent or if I have forgotten to reserve and my child eats in the canteen

All the children will be fed even if a place has not been reserved for them. When the deadlines for reservations or cancellations have not been respected, financial penalties will be applied, if that happens more than 3 times in the month (unless documentary evidence for the reason has been supplied).

TO HELP YOU WITH THE ONLINE PROCESS

There are digital mediators at the town hall who can help you make your reservations on **saintdenisenligne.fr**

Family Reception Centre

Department for Children and Recreation:
01 49 33 70 94

How are the penalties applied?

How are the penalties applied?		penalties	no penalties
Although I have reserved a place, my child did not eat in the canteen. I do not have documentary evidence for the reason.	For the 1st time		✗
	For the 2nd time		✗
	For the 3rd time		✗
	From the 4th time onwards	✗	
<p>My child did not eat in the canteen even though I had reserved a place. I have presented an official document within 8 days to the town hall, at another town hall department, or on saintdenisenligne.fr:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - either a medical certificate or other evidence that my child was kept home - or evidence of losing a job or taking a new job - or an official document of civil status attesting to a death or a birth in the family - or an official document advising of my child's handicap 			✗
Mon enfant a mangé à la cantine alors que je n'avais pas réservé.	For the 1st time		✗
	For the 2nd time		✗
	For the 3rd time		✗
	From the 4th time onwards	✗	
My child could not eat in the canteen because the school was closed, because my child was on a school outing, or because the teacher was absent.			✗

AMOUNT OF PENALTIES: 2€ + FAMILY QUOTIENT

Penalties will be applied from the November invoice, received in January 2025.

A quality kitchen

At Saint-Denis, the meals are prepared by the central kitchen. The menus are devised by a qualified dietician and the head chef. They adhere to the quality initiative *Mon Restau Responsable*[®]. This ensures that the children benefit from all the nutritional elements they need.

Result: more fresh, organic and local products. Since October 2020, two vegetarian meals have been offered every week. From the 2024-2025 school year, the children will be offered a third weekly vegetarian meal.

Finally, particular attention is paid to children with allergies. An individual reception plan (*projet d'accueil individualisé* – PAI) with a medical prescription may be implemented.



Less food waste

Nowadays, all the schools in Saint-Denis have adopted a consumption pattern aimed at reducing food waste.

The portions are adapted to the needs and appetite of each child. For infant schools, the meal is composed of four elements, and in elementary schools there are five elements, always with a balanced diet in mind.

The results are conclusive, with 44% less waste since the Town began this programme!

The lunch break: an important time in the child's day

Our facilitators aim to make the lunch break a relaxed time that is adapted to the needs of the children.

The town of Saint-Denis has thus chosen to adopt the highest supervision standards. We have developed an ambitious plan for training and mobility to ensure a greater professionalisation of the facilitating staff, thus improving and standardising good educational practices.



What you need to remember

- > In September 2024, school meals will be free for all pupils from reception class to CM2.
- > To benefit from this, you need to reserve a place for your child.
- > You can sign up from your account on saintdenisenligne.fr, or by completing the paper form at the town hall.
- > If you have not reserved a place, or if your child does not have their school meal, you will have to pay a financial penalty unless you can provide documentary evidence of the reason
- > For further information, contact 01 49 33 70 94.