



Lavant

C.E. Primary School

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Over recent weeks, we have noticed an increasing number of children bringing water bottles that do not meet our current request that all children drink from the same type of school water bottle. We appreciate that there are a variety of reasons for this, including concerns about plastic bottles and some children preferring to drink from different types of bottles. We also recognise that we have not communicated about this for some time, which has understandably led to some inconsistency.

The Friends have provided all children with a school water bottle for many years now and we have requested that children use our standard school water bottle for a number of reasons:

- They are guaranteed to be BPA free, which means they are safer for drinking.
- The soft plastic ensures they do not make a loud noise if knocked over and do not hurt if a child is accidentally knocked whilst drinking.
- The drinking spout, ensures there is never a large spillage if accidentally knocked over.
- The transparency of the bottle ensure we can quickly ensure that all children are drinking water rather than squash which is kinder to teeth, and does not leave a sticky residue if spilt.
- The uniformed approach ensures all children are equal.

However, due to a number of parents questioning the use of our plastic bottles, we will be trialling a revised approach for the remainder of this academic year.

From today and until the end of this academic year, children may bring a water bottle of their choice, provided that it:

- is **not made of glass**;
- is a **bottle** (not a flask or cup style with a straw)
- is an **appropriate size** for use in school and to fit in their tray or designated storage area;
- has a **secure, leak-proof lid**. Open cups or bottles without a secure closure are not suitable.

This trial will allow us to see what works best in practice before we review our water bottle approach ready for the next academic year. Following this review, we will communicate our long-term approach with families.

We would appreciate your support in ensuring your child's water bottle meets the above requirements and is **clearly named**.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding.

Kind regards,

Headteacher

