



**FOOD
EDUCATION
NETWORK**

Shaping the future of food education in England

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Special Advisor to FEN

Who are we?



- Alliance of over 30 food education organisations
- Focused on England
- Interim Steering Committee
 - School Food Matters
 - Veg Power
 - Royal Academy of Culinary Arts
 - School of Artisan Food
 - Soil Association
- Special advisors
 - Academic – Kim Smith, City University of London
 - Consultant – Myles Bremner, Bremner & Co
 - Educator – George Webber
- Food Education Network Director



THE SCHOOL OF
ARTISAN FOOD



What is food education?



Comprehensive approach to food education that incorporates:

- Food preparation skills
- Nutrition
- Growing
- Farming
- Food enterprise
- Climate change
- Food provenance
- Food safety
- Sensory food education
- Food culture
- Food production
- Food media...



Why focus on food education?



All children in the UK should be equipped with the skills and knowledge to navigate the food system and eat healthy sustainable diets

- Childhood to adolescence is best time to address cooking, health and sustainability behaviours
- Worth it! Behaviours track into adulthood (Lavelle et al, (2016); Worsley et al., (2016); Laska et al., (2012)
- "The education system does not currently equip us with the skills to live sustainably" (Food Foundation, 2020, pg. 31)
- Reduction in learning about food at home (Engler-Stringer, 2010; Lavelle et al., 2016)



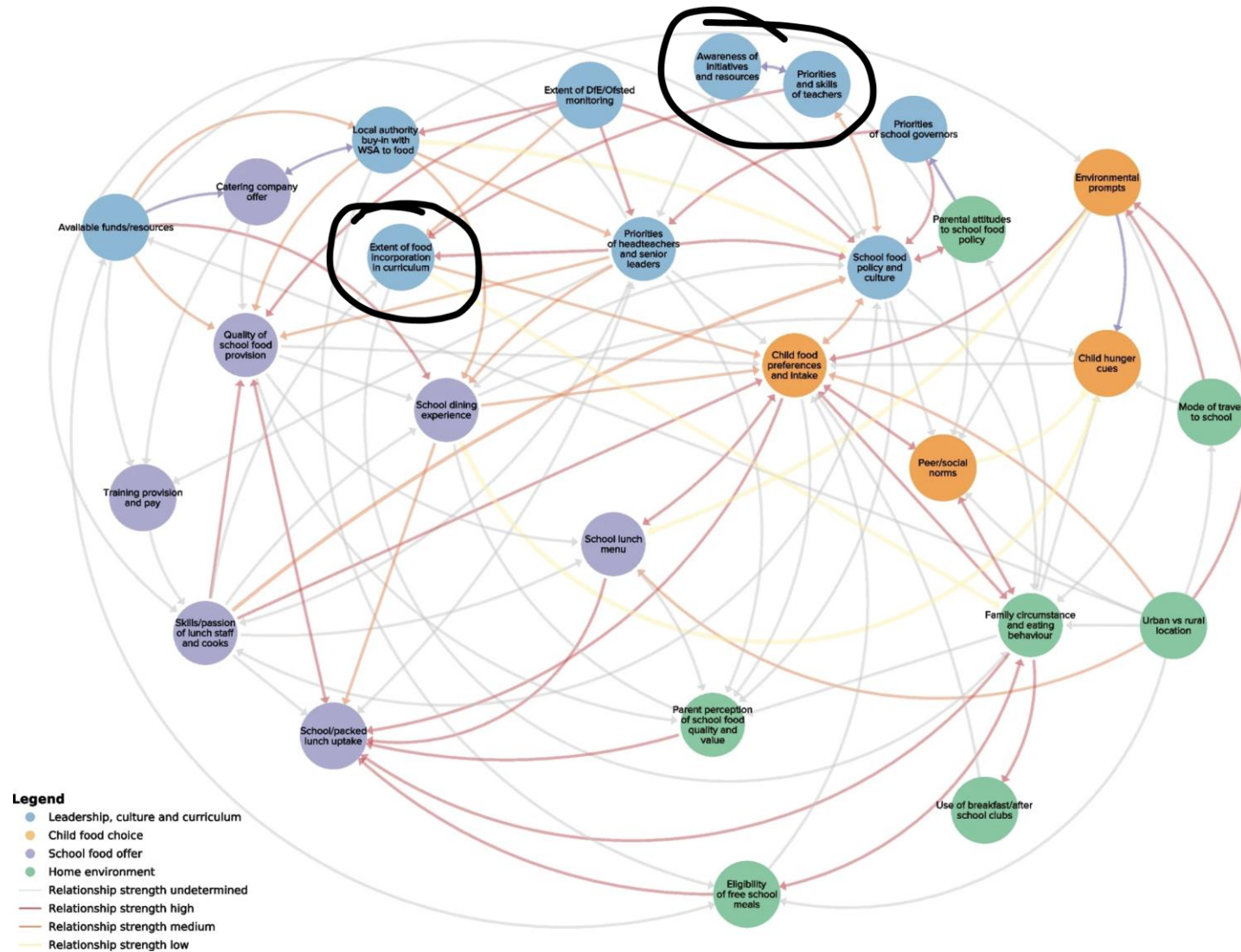
Why focus on food education?



- As part of a systems approach, food education has the potential to:
 - improve health outcomes
 - promote and support sustainable food systems
 - support low-income households
 - foster cultural diversity
 - inspire a future generation of chefs, farmers and food lovers.
- Support career pathways into the food system



Vital in Whole School Approach to Food



CONNECTS-Food School Food Systems Map

Current Food Education Landscape in England



- Some food education exists in current education pathways
 - Early Years and Foundation Framework
 - Design and Technology- Cooking and Nutrition (KS1 –3)
 - Part of Science (KS1-4)
 - Relationship and Sexual Health and Health Eating (KS1-4)
- Postcode lottery, patchy and inconsistent
- But more is needed:
 - Research
 - Contemporary curriculum for the food world children live in
 - Implemented
 - Monitoring and evaluation

Our mission



- **Develop evidence** supporting the importance and benefits of food education
- **Advocate for policy improvements** from EYFS to KS4:
 - effective implementation
 - curriculum inclusion
 - government funding
- **Promote** food education in the media, schools, early years settings and public



Next...



- Help us spread the word
- Food education organisations: Join us
- Work with us

For more info

www.foodeducationnetwork.org.uk





FOOD EDUCATION NETWORK

Thank you

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