



membership resources

APSE National Catering Network presents

Reducing Food Waste in School Catering

Join sector leaders for a practical online session sharing proven strategies to cut waste, improve efficiency, and strengthen sustainability in local authority school catering services

Thursday 16 July 2026 | 10.30am - 12.00 noon

Discover how local authorities and sector organisations are tackling food waste in schools through practical innovation, targeted education, and smarter service delivery. Hear from **Tracy James, Senior Operation Manager, Louise Gillam, Dietician, Torfaen County Borough Council,** and **Louis Davidson, Programme Manager and School Chef Educator** as they share actionable ideas you can apply in your own catering service.

Free for APSE member councils — attend to gain practical tools, expert insight, and examples that can support immediate improvements in your service

[>> Reserve your free place now <<](#)

Featured topics and speakers

Opening remarks

Councillor Norma Stephenson

Chair, APSE Catering Network

Reducing food waste in primary schools by 20%–30%

- A practical multi-step approach to preventing and managing food waste in schools
- Menu development, pupil engagement, waste monitoring, and operational improvements
- How waste reduction supports wider climate action and sustainability goals

Tracy James, Senior Operation Manager, and Louise Gillam, Dietician, Torfaen County Borough Council

Feed Bellies, Not Bins

- Effective strategies for reducing food waste across school catering operations
- Education, engagement, and tracking initiatives that drive measurable change
- Resources and toolkits to support implementation in your own service

Louis Davidson, Programme Manager and School Chef Educator, Chefs in Schools

Eat Smart

- From Measuring waste to making change in just 6 weeks
- Headline outputs
- Examples of action and creating a lasting legacy

Oliver Priestley-Leach, Strategic Development Manager, REFUSE CIC

[>> Book now to secure your free place <<](#)

Kind regards,

Vickie Hacking

Principal Advisor, APSE

On behalf of Councillor Norma Stephenson

Chair of the APSE Catering Network