



Caterer Update: Introduction

Our latest **Bang in Some Beans** campaign is encouraging everyone to eat more fibre by consuming more beans & pulses, as well as fresh fruit and veg at school and at home. It brings together a large primary and special school programme with collaboration between schools and caterers (Discover Beans) and a significant social media campaign and media partnerships which will reach well beyond schools. Through our media partners we'll reach millions of families with encouragement to add more fibre to their children's diets including looking out for dishes featuring beans and pulses at school.



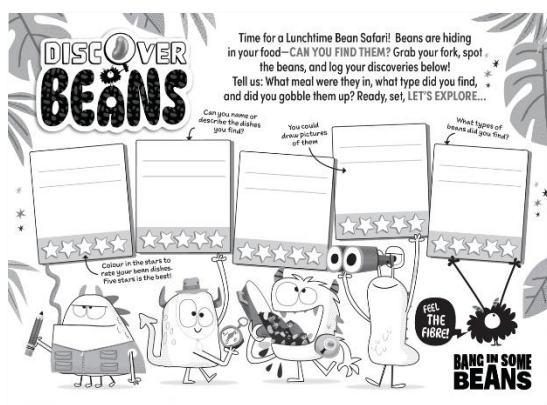
Our objective of the school campaign is to support the uptake and consumption of blended dishes containing beans & pulses in primary and special schools. Moving beans & pulses from hidden to "discovered", accepted and never needing to hide again. This will create a foundation step towards more ambitious bean & pulse inclusion in future menus and greater uptake of vegetarian dishes.

Timings: Available any time after 28th September.

Discover Beans

The school's programme is called Discover Beans, a fun activity which encourages the children to "discover" the beans hidden on their school menu. They will be rallied by a fun assembly featuring a video call from Sam the explorer.

Each child may be given a Discover Beans chart to log as they discover beans.



Schools registered with us will also receive rolls of these **bean stickers** for the lunchtime team to hand out when beans are on the menu. Please keep an eye out for them.



We are also supplying lesson plans, craft projects and other teaching resources. You can check those out here: <https://vegpower.org.uk/bang-in-some-beans/teaching-resources/>

Engaging Schools

What are we asking schools to do? We know how much pressure schools are under, so it has been designed to be flexible to suit individual schools.

The most important thing is for them to send out this digital flyer to parents, as that will engage families. We use these flyers in all programmes, they are incredibly effective, partly because they are mobile friendly.

If you can get your schools to do one thing – ask them to send the flyer out to parents & carers with your usual menu comms.

If they are up for more, then we recommend the assembly and that they print out and give the children the Discover Beans charts.

Hopefully many schools will also do the lesson plans and other activities.



What can caterers do?



Keep serving great food with hidden beans, or beans right out in the open. Here's what else you can do to help the children discover beans:

Schools which took part last year should still have the beans decorations from last year – please put them up. If you are short, we have some spare. Just drop an email to hello@vegpower.org.uk with name, address and number of pupils.

Schools which are new to the programme this year will be sent new decoration sets. They will arrive with the stickers addresses to our contact at the school.

The children should be looking out for the dishes with beans, but you can help. You can download these fun beans monster characters and put them on menu items which feature beans.

Don't forget to hand out the participation stickers, particularly to the children who try the dishes with bean

Please do share your beans successes on social media with the hashtag #BangInSomeBeans and tag @VegPowerUK.

Thanks for all your help.