#### 1.1 & 1.3 - Functions of nutrients

What are Nutrients? Nutrients are the building blocks that make up food and have <u>specific</u> and <u>important roles to play in the body</u>. Some nutrients provide <u>energy</u> while others are essential for <u>growth</u> and <u>maintenance of the body</u>.

Macro Nutrient		Role in the body		Food Example	Deficiency
Carbohydrate		The main source of energy for the body.		Bread, rice, pasta, potatoes	Blood sugar levels drop Fat and protein deficiency
Protein		Provides the body with growth and repair.		Meat, poultry, beans, eggs, lentils, tofu, fish	Slow growth, poor condition of hair and nails. Oedema and Kwashiorkor
Fat		Provides the body with insulation and a small amount protects vital organs. Provides essential fatty acids for the body.		Butter, oil, cheese, cream, nuts, oily fish, crisps	Deficiency in fat soluble vitamins. Weight loss, less insulation, less protection.
Vitamin	Role in the body		Food examples		Deficiency
А	Helps to keep the eyes healthy and strengthen the immune system.		Dark green leafy vegetables, carrots, liver		Night blindness, weaker immune system and stunted growth.
в	Helps to release the energy from the food we eat.		Bread, milk, cereals, fish, meat		Tiredness, weak muscles, dry skin, memory loss, nerve damage.
с	Help with skin healing and healthy skin. Help with the absorption of Iron.		Fresh fruit, broccoli, tomatoes		Anaemia, scurvy, increased risk of cancer.
D	Important for absorbing calcium and help with healthy bone structure.		Oily fish, eggs, butter, Sunshine		Low absorption of calcium, weak bones and teeth. Rickets, Osteomalacia, Osteoporosis.
Mineral	Role in the body		Food Examples		Deficiency
Calcium	Important for strong teeth and bones. It also helps with blood clotting.		Milk, yoghurt, soya, dark green leafy vegetables		Rickets, Osteoporosis, weaker bones, slows down blood clotting.
Iron	Needed for red blood cells which help to transport oxygen around the body.		Nuts, whole grains, dark green leafy vegetables, meat, liver		Anaemia – Tiredness, pale complexion.



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