

# Wild about vending change

PUPILS at Swindon Academy are enjoying healthier snacks after Swindon Wildcats players launched a healthy vending machine at their school.

The new machine is part of a campaign by the British Heart Foundation (BHF) to encourage pupils to eat healthier snacks and meals during the school day.

Swindon Academy is one of 30 schools across the country to pilot the machine, which is part of the BHF's Food4Thought campaign.

Aaron Neil, Swindon Wildcats player, said: "As sportspeople we

know the importance of eating healthily and keeping fit.

"We can only play to our best capabilities if we look after our mind and our bodies and the only way we can do that is by eating the right food, exercising and training regularly.

"We also know that it can be too easy and too tempting to snack on the wrong sort of food, so we think installing healthy vending machines in schools is a fantastic idea as it makes the right food choices more accessible and more appealing."

If successful, the BHF hopes other schools will use their model to set up their own healthy vending machines.

Nick Warren, assistant principal at Swindon Academy, said: "The pupils have thoroughly enjoyed working on the project – designing the machine and choosing the items to be sold – and they have been looking forward to the machine arriving.

"We think it's a great idea and are confident the pupils will embrace it and enhance their daily school diet."