

Blakeview Primary School- Nut and Allergens Policy

Context:

Department of Education schools are required to provide learning environments that are safe and supportive of all students. This includes providing for the needs of students and staff who may have anaphylactic conditions- including nut allergies. For these individual's exposure to allergens at school may constitute a risk to their health and wellbeing.

Anaphylaxis -is a medical condition that causes a severe or fatal reaction. This reaction can be triggered by contact, ingestion or inhalation. There is also a concern in regard to contamination of equipment whether this is play equipment, learning resources or classroom furniture.

While it is not possible to guarantee that the school environment will be completely free of potential hazards, risks can be minimised by compliance with reasonable guidelines.

Purpose:

- To raise awareness regarding anaphylactic conditions for all conditions for all members of the school community.
- To provide a safe learning environment for all members of the Blakeview School community.

Management:

Parents and Caregivers

- Are requested NOT to send food to school that contains nuts- especially peanuts (aka a legume). This includes peanut pastes, Nutella, all individual nuts, foods that contain nuts and cooking oil containing peanut oil.
- Are requested NOT to send boxes that have previously contained nut products, e.g. cereal boxes, muesli bars with nuts, cake boxes, biscuits.
- If a child has an allergic medical condition diagnosed by a health professional the school must be supplied with their prescribed medication in the original labelled pharmacy container, along with the appropriate medication authority and health action plan
- Will be informed of this policy at the commencement of each new school year and at enrolment.
- Will be informed if there are other specific allergens that are isolated to specific classrooms i.e. latex, fructose etc.

Students

- Students being encouraged NOT to share food.
- Students being encouraged to wash hands after eating.
- Who bring food containing nuts or nut products, are required to eat that food away from the allergic students and must wash their hands thoroughly before play.

Staff

- Staff supervising eating times and be vigilant in regard to this policy.
- Staff being made aware of students and staff who have anaphylactic responses, including nut allergies.
- Staff participating in training from approved providers as mandated by the Teacher Registration Board to understand procedures relating to Anaphylaxis as the need arises.

School Canteen (Rory's), SAKG, OSHC and Catered Events

- Are required to comply with this policy
- Will not use food which list nuts as an ingredient

The policy will be promoted by:

- Information via the school newsletter
- New families to the school community being informed via information in their enrolment package
- Governing Council being informed and giving approval and support to this policy
- Staff being informed annually and provided with training opportunities
- Student being informed via teachers, signs and through the newsletter

Review:

- This policy will be reviewed by staff and governing council every two years. The school acknowledges that due to the current food processing practices, it is impractical to eliminate nuts and nut products entirely from an environment where there is food. The emphasis is therefore on raising awareness and adopting the reasonable procedures re nut awareness.