



Nut Awareness Policy

Context

We have students in our school with a life threatening food allergy – anaphylaxis to nuts. This is a medical condition that causes a severe reaction to specific foods and can be fatal. These reactions can be triggered by contact, ingestion or inhalation.

Purpose

To raise awareness regarding severe allergies and to provide a safe learning environment for all members of the Karrendi Primary School community.

The Nut Aware policy will be managed by:

- Parents and caregivers are requested NOT to send food to school that contains nuts. This includes peanut butter/paste, Nutella, all nuts and cooking oil containing peanut oil, as well as foods containing nuts.
- Students being encouraged NOT to share food.
- Students being encouraged to wash hands before and after eating.
- Staff supervising eating at lunchtime. When teachers notice nut product being brought into the classroom the identified child will be sent to the office to eat their lunch. All children will be encouraged to wash their hands after eating.
- Staff made aware of students and staff who have anaphylactic responses, including nut allergies.
- Staff participating in first aid training in understanding and dealing with Anaphylaxis (severe allergic reactions) as the need arises.
- Canteen complying with the Nut Awareness Policy.
- Parents and caregivers being requested NOT to send boxes for construction that have previously contained nut products, eg. cereal boxes, muesli bars with nuts, cake boxes and biscuits.

The policy will be promoted by:

- Parents and caregivers being informed via the newsletter at the commencement of each school year.
- New families to the school community being informed via enrolment information.
- Governing Council being informed and ratifying the policy.
- Staff being reminded of their duty of care and provided with training opportunities.
- Students being informed via teachers and the newsletter.

Management of Students with nut allergies

Students who have been identified by a doctor as having anaphylaxis as a result of a nut allergy will be required to submit to the school a Health Care Plan.

- Clear instructions as per the Health Care Plan are distributed in the
 - Class folder handed out at the beginning of the year
 - NIT teachers' folders, handed out at the beginning of the year

- Relief teachers' information folder – clearly identified
- Yard duty bags contain a photo of the child and instructions of what to do when a reaction occurs

Epi pens are stored in the front office under each child's name. They are checked at the end of the year to ensure they have not expired.

All staff are trained in First Aid and Front Office staff are trained in Senior First Aid.

This school acknowledges that due to food processing practices it is impractical to eliminate nuts or nut products entirely from an environment where there is food. Many food packaging labels include the phrase 'may contain traces of nuts'. Foods with packaging labels containing the phrase 'may contain traces of nuts' are acceptable. Thus Nut "Aware" School.

Policy ratified by staff	December 2024
Policy endorsed by Governing Council	December 2024
Policy review date	December 2025