



4.2 Birthday Parties & Cake

Purpose

To guide educators and families in health and safety matters relating to children's birthdays.

Objective

To ensure that any family who wants their child to celebrate their birthday with cake can be catered for in a way which meets the safety, health and dietary requirements of the John Street community.

Scope of Policy

This policy applies to educators and families at John Street.

Policy Statement

Birthdays are important events for young children.

Families are welcome to order a cake through John Street, and perhaps bring balloons/party hats for their child's birthday if they wish.

However, in line with John Street's policy on nutrition, food and beverages, food allergies and dietary requirements, lollies and sweets will not be permitted, and in the case of children with latex allergies, families will be advised as to whether balloons will be accepted.

Due to changes in food safety standards, foods prepared at home are not to be brought in to John Street.

Procedures

- Parents are requested to check with room staff for any existing allergies within the room.
- Cakes can be ordered through the kitchen (or child's educators) at least two days prior to the occasion.
- Home-made cakes will not be accepted, as John Street cannot guarantee food safety standards or children's individual dietary requirements will be met.

- Store bought foods are allowed as long as a complete list of ingredients are included with the food, and that the food has not been unwrapped or opened in any way. This enables educators to check all ingredients against any existing allergies.

Responsibility

Educators and the Director are responsible for providing this information to families, and administering the procedures outlined in this document.

Legislative Provisions

Education and Care Services National Law Act 2010 – Section 3 (2) (a); 167

Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011:

r.77	<i>Health, hygiene and safe food practices</i>
r.78	<i>Food and beverages</i>
r.79	<i>Service providing food and beverages</i>
r.90	<i>Medical conditions policy</i>

National Quality Standard for Early Childhood Education and Care & School Age Care

Element 2.1.3	<i>Healthy eating and physical activity are promoted and appropriate for each child.</i>
Element 4.2.2	<i>Professional standards guide practice, interactions and relationships.</i>
Standard 6.1	<i>Respectful relationships with families are developed and maintained and families are supported in their parenting role.</i>
Element 6.1.2	<i>The expertise, culture, values and beliefs of families are respected and families share in decision-making about their child's learning and wellbeing.</i>

Early Years Learning Framework for Australia

Practice:	<i>Responsiveness to children; Intentional teaching; Cultural competence</i>
Outcomes:	<i>1, 2 & 3</i>

Background Legislation

<i>Victorian Food Act 1984</i>	<i>Provision of Food</i>
<i>Food Standards Australia New Zealand Act 1991</i>	<i>Food Safety</i>
<i>Victorian Public Health & Wellbeing Act 2008</i>	<i>Regulations 2009</i>

Related John Street Policies, Procedures and Guidelines

Policies	<i>Anaphylaxis; Diabetes; Dealing with Medical Conditions & Medication; Breast Milk & Infant Formula; Occupational Health & Safety; Nutrition, Special Dietary Requirements, Food Safety & Hygiene; Program Planning; Communication with Families</i>
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Authorisation

This policy was approved by the John Street Board in March 2019.