

Context

These guidelines have been created to reduce the potential risk of allergic reaction for members of our community who may suffer from food allergies. The school acknowledges that due to food processing practices it is impractical to eliminate a wide range of food based allergens including nuts or nut products, eggs, fava beans etc. and/or products with traces of nuts, eggs, fava beans etc. entirely from an environment where there is food.

Thus, we identify as a '*Food Allergy Aware*' school. However, at various times e.g. a class/school event, at the beginning of the year and/or on enrolment of a new student, a class teacher may be more specific about asking their students and their families to avoid having particular food items in the class and/or school due to the needs of a child in the class and/or school.

Purpose

- To assist in providing a safe learning environment for all members of the Gilles Street Primary School community.
- To raise the awareness of all members of the community regarding food based allergies.

Management

- Staff, parents and caregivers are requested to be aware of the food they send to school with children especially items that contain nuts (especially peanuts) and/or where there has been a request to exclude a food item/s.
- Food and nutrition is taught through the Australian Curriculum: Health and PE learning area incorporating education about food allergy with any planned practical activities it will be assumed that some participants may have a food related allergy.
- Food should not be supplied to children with anaphylaxis unless pre-arranged and agreed upon with the family.
- Food preparation will follow standard precautions to avoid cross contamination.
- Planning camps and excursions will consider food supply services, including discussing the full menu with families.
- Risk assessments will be conducted for any planned activity involving food.
- Food is not given as a reward/treat.
- Students are to be seated when eating always.
- Staff are to supervise eating at lunch time.
- Students will be encouraged NOT to share food unless a shared lunch has been arranged and parents are informed.
- Students will be instructed to wash hands before and after eating.
- Students bringing food that contains nuts or nut products or other allergens where there has been a request made by the classroom teacher, may be asked to eat away from any other students, and to wash their hands before going to play.
- School staff will participate in training, involving understanding and dealing with anaphylaxis (severe allergic reactions) on a regular basis.
- Class teachers will inform their students and their families of these guidelines.

Promotion

- Parents/caregivers being informed via school communication channels
- New families to the school community are informed via the Enrolment Information Package and website.
- Staff are informed and provided with training opportunities.
- Students are informed by class teachers.

Further advice or clarification

- Parents/caregivers requiring clarification about the Food Allergy Awareness guidelines are invited to and/or will be directed to a member of the school leadership team.