

Purpose:

- To provide a safe learning environment for all members of Thorndon Park Primary School community
- To raise the awareness of all members of the community regarding severe allergies
- Some students at our school have life-threatening food allergies – anaphylaxis to nuts and other food products. This is a medical condition that causes severe, even fatal reaction to specific foods. These reactions can be triggered by contact, ingestion or inhalation. There is also a huge concern in regard to contamination of equipment whether this is play equipment, desks or other classroom materials.

Management of the Allergies and Nut Awareness policy:

- Parents/caregivers being requested NOT to send food to school that contains nuts (especially peanuts). This includes peanut paste, nutella, all nuts and cooking oil containing peanuts. Parents/caregivers are not to send boxes that have previously contained nut products, e.g. cereal boxes, muesli bars with nuts, cake boxes and biscuits.
- Parents/caregivers of children affected by nut allergies having an ANNUAL anaphylaxis medical plan, signed by the child's doctor, lodged at the school. Epi-pens and medication are supplied by the parents/caregivers and accompany students at all times
- Staff supervising eating at lunchtime.
- Students being encouraged NOT to share food.
- Students being encouraged to wash or sanitise their hands after eating.
- Staff participating in training from St Johns or Red Cross to assist in understanding and dealing with Anaphylaxis (severe allergic reactions) as the need arises.
- The school complying with the school allergies and nut awareness policy and ordering correct food/snacks.

Promotion of the policy:

- Parents/caregivers being informed via the school newsletter.
- New families to the school community being informed via the Enrolment Information package.
- Governing Council being informed and has given approval and support.
- Staff being informed and provided with Anaphylaxis training.
- Students being informed via teachers.

The school acknowledges that due to food processing practices it is impractical to eliminate nuts or nut products entirely from an environment. When purchasing food products it will say "May contain traces of nuts" OR "May contain traces of peanuts." This is on nearly all packaging. It is preferable to purchase food product which state :May contain traces of nuts.

Reviewed August 2022