



Nut Awareness Policy.

Para Vista Primary School is a nut aware school. We have students in our school with a life-threatening food allergy – anaphylaxis to items within the legume and nut families. This is a medical condition that causes a severe or even fatal reaction to specific foods. These reactions can be triggered by contact, ingestion or inhalation.

This policy is in place to raise awareness regarding severe allergies and to provide a safe learning environment for all members of the Para Vista Primary School community.

The nut awareness policy is managed by:

- Parents and caregivers being requested to NOT send food to school that contain nuts. This includes peanut paste, Nutella, all nuts and cooking oil containing peanut oil, as well as foods containing nuts (including muesli bars).
- Parents and caregivers being requested to NOT send food to school that contain peas, beans and sprouts from the legume family. This includes foods containing lentils, peas (including chick, cow), beans (including mung, kidney, black) and sprouts (including alfalfa).
- Students being encouraged NOT to share food.
- Parents and caregivers being requested to NOT send food to school for class parties / shared lunches which contains nuts or legumes.
- Students being encouraged to wash hands after eating.
- Staff supervising eating at lunchtime. When teachers notice nut or legume products being bought into the classroom, the identified child will be asked to eat in an alternate space. All children will be encouraged to wash their hands.
- Staff being made aware of students and staff who have anaphylactic responses, including nut or other allergies.
- Staff participating in first aid training in understanding and dealing with Anaphylaxis (severe allergic reactions) as the need arises.
- The school canteen complying with the Nut Awareness Policy for all items available for purchase.
- Parents and caregivers being requested NOT to send boxes that have previously contained nut products, e.g. cereal boxes, muesli bars with nuts, cake boxes, 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 the Enrolment Information Package.
- 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 (or other) allergies:

Students who have been identified by a doctor as having anaphylaxis as a result of a nut (or other) 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 information documents handed out at the beginning of the year.
- Specialist teachers' information documents handed out at the beginning of the year.
- Relief teachers' information folder – clearly identified in the first sleeve of the folder; medical alert slip attached to TRT day slips for any relief teacher working with identified students.
- Yard duty bags contain a photo of the child and instructions of what to do when a reaction occurs; medical alert cards for immediate support.
- All teaching staff are trained in First Aid and Front Office staff are designated First Aiders.

This school acknowledges that due to food processing practices it is impractical to eliminate nuts and legumes or nut or legume 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 that contain the phrase 'may contain traces of nuts' will be monitored. Thus we are a Nut "Aware" School.

Policy developed May 2022