



ABERFELDIE PRIMARY SCHOOL

FOOD POLICY

Rationale:

Students eat regularly throughout the school day, to ensure the wellbeing of students and the cleanliness of the school grounds, eating needs to be managed appropriately.

Aims:

- To ensure that eating food at our school is safe, and that the school's grounds are not littered.

Implementation:

- Students at our school typically bring food for morning tea, and for lunch.
- In addition, students are able to eat brain food (fruit and vegetables) and drink water during classes.
- Due to issues relating to anaphylaxis, allergies, diabetes etc, **students are not to swap food with others**, and are not to be provided with food from the school that parents have not supplied or approved.
- Classes with students with anaphylaxis: students will be informed by their teachers who these students are and will have classroom rules in place when eating in the rooms.
- Students are not permitted to use chewing gums, and are not allowed to eat non-brain foods during class times, unless approved by the parent and teacher for a medical condition such as diabetes.
- Students will have designated eating times for morning tea and lunch.
- If for any reason, students do not finish eating their food in the designated time in the classroom, teachers will make arrangements for students to finish their lunches elsewhere.
- Students are not encouraged to wander around the school eating food at recess or lunch times. Students are encouraged to eat their food in the yard on asphalt areas only. – NO food is to be taken onto the oval or on the playgrounds.
- Rubbish bins will be placed in each classroom and in the designated outside areas.
- The school curriculum will include the benefits of healthy foods, exercise and a healthy lifestyle.
- All school activities, excursions and camps etc will involve detailed information to parents regarding the food menu, and will require parent approval.

Considerations for classes with students with food allergies:

- From time to time, the school will provide information to the school community on severe allergy and the risk of anaphylaxis and strategies that school has in place.
- Consider students with allergies when planning fundraisers, cultural days, stalls for Fetes, breakfast mornings etc. Notices may need to be sent to the parent community discouraging specific food products.
- Food rewards should be discouraged and non-food rewards encouraged.

- Students at risk of food anaphylaxis should eat food that is supplied by their parents or food that is agreed to by parents prior to a given event. If required a clearly labelled 'treat box' could be supplied by parents and located in the student's classroom.
- Class parties and school celebrations:
 - discuss these activities with parents of allergic child well in advance
 - a notice is sent home to all parents prior to the event, discouraging specific food products
 - teacher may ask the parent to attend the event as a 'parent helper'
 - students at risk of anaphylaxis or any food allergy, should not share food brought in by others students. Ideally they should bring their own food.
 - Spontaneous birthday celebrations for students where food is supplied by parents, is discouraged. The school has not been involved in the selection/making of the food and therefore cannot guarantee the food does not contain allergens for some students.
- Cooking/Food Technology/Science Experiments:
 - Engage parents in discussion prior to cooking sessions and activities using food.
 - Remind all children to not share food they have cooked with others at school.
 - Engage parents in discussion prior to experiments containing food.
- Students at risk of food or insect sting anaphylaxis should be excused from rubbish/paper pick up. Non rubbish collecting duties are encouraged.
- Art classes:
 - Ensure containers used by students at risk of anaphylaxis do not contain allergens eg: egg white or yolk on egg cartons. Ask parents of student if they can supply alternative safe containers.
 - Activities such as face painting or mask making should be discussed with parents prior to the activity.
 - Care to be taken with play dough etc. Check ingredients for nut oils etc. Discuss with parent of wheat allergic students.

Evaluation:

- This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle.

This policy was last ratified by School Council on....

May 2014