



## Glencoe Central Primary School Food Allergy Policy

Glencoe Central Primary School is a 'Nut aware and Egg Cautious School'. This is to support children and staff to be aware of the potential allergies which can be present in foods containing nuts and eggs.

Products that contain nuts include:

- o Peanut butter
- o Nutella
- o Some fruit and nut bars and muesli bars
- o Some biscuits
- o Chocolates and any other products that have nuts listed in the ingredients

There are many products that contain eggs. Our school keeps chickens and ducks for the production of eggs. The school will continue to do this and exercise caution in relation to the use of these products.

### **WHY?**

Anaphylaxis is a severe form of allergic reaction and can be potentially life threatening. There are many causative agents, the worst is often nuts, and a minute amount can be fatal.

Anaphylaxis is preventable. Avoidance of specific triggers is by far the best option. Treatment is an injection of adrenaline and emergency transfer to hospital.

**It is our aim to provide a safe learning environment for all people in our community.**

### **STAFF RESPONSIBILITIES**

Staff at GCPS will:

- Support the Food Allergy Policy by reinforcing the policy through the class health program.
- Be trained in use of the Epipen and associated triggers and prevention by St Johns.
- Encourage students to wash their hands after eating.
- Be aware of relevant Department for Education policies and procedures linked to food allergies.
- Educate students about the hazards associated with nut and egg products.
- Discuss strategies on how to reduce the risk to anaphylactic students.
- At whole school events, students and parents will be reminded of the Food Allergy Policy.
- Regularly communicate the policy through the school newsletter.
- Increase vigilance when supervising the eating of recess and lunch foods. (A reminder note will be sent home with the child when if there is a concern about lunchbox contents.)
- Communicate any changes to the policy with the school community and Governing Council.

### **CLASSES WITH AN ANAPHYLACTIC CHILD**

- All preventative measures will be put in place to ensure the class is Nut Free.
- Children are not to share food.
- Children will be encouraged to wash their hands after eating.

Additional parent information will be provided via class newsletters and at class information sessions.

### **SCHOOL RESPONSIBILITIES**

Students with anaphylactic reactions require the following:

- A photo and alert in EMS, TRT package, canteen, first aid room and staff room.
- A health care plan with a documented plan for first aid response.
- The name and contact details of doctor who signed the Health Care Plan.
- Support the class teacher/s and other staff in implementing the Health Care Plan.
- Reinforce appropriate avoidance and management strategies at assemblies and through the newsletter etc.
- Ensure that the canteen and other school lunch providers comply with the 'Nut Free and Egg Cautious' Food Allergy Policy.
- Provide additional information to classes with anaphylactic children.

### **PARENT RESPONSIBILITIES**

Parents of anaphylactic students will provide the school with a Health Care Plan for school records and an EpiPen to be held in the first aid cupboard.

Parents are asked to support the school's Nut Free Policy by:

- Being sensitive and supportive to the needs of anaphylactic students
- Providing children with healthy food options that do not contain nuts
- Making students aware of foods that may contain eggs
- Encouraging your children to wash their hands after eating.
- Considering our Food Allergy policy when sending food to school for a birthday (birthday cakes) or a class party.

### **PROMOTING THE FOOD ALLERGY POLICY**

**The policy will be promoted by:**

- Parents and caregivers will be informed regularly via the newsletter and Seesaw.
- New families to the school community will be informed via the Enrolment Information Package, and reinforced by the class teacher.
- Governing Council will be informed and approval and support sought.
- Staff will be informed and provided with training opportunities.
- Students will be informed via teachers, assemblies and the newsletter.

- *This school acknowledges that it is impractical to ask parents to not send food, which after the list of ingredients state “may contain traces of nuts”. This Food Allergy Policy applies to those ingredients specifically listed on the product label.*
- *This school also acknowledges that it is impractical to ask parents to avoid all foods that contain eggs. We encourage families to support the policy by making students aware of foods that may contain eggs and to reinforce a caution in relation to eggs.*

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