



FOOD POLICY

Purpose

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

Scope

To ensure that eating food at our school is safe, and that those students that suffer from life threatening allergies and other health conditions are protected.

Policy

- Students at our school typically bring (or purchase from the Canteen) food for morning tea and for lunch. In addition, students are able to eat fruit/vegetable snack and drink water during classes.
- Due to issues relating to anaphylaxis, allergies, diabetes etc, students are not to swap food with others or to purchase food for others at the canteen, and are not to be provided with food from the school that parents have not supplied or approved. Food rewards are not to be given to students.
- Parents are **strongly discouraged** from providing nuts or nut products to their children for any reason, due to the serious risk nuts pose for students with nut allergies.
- Parents are **strongly discouraged** from bringing yoghurt pouches, milk drinks, cheese dips, cheese wedges, Cheezels and Twisties (these are due to the cheese dust). This is due to a student with a very severe **contact** dairy anaphylaxis.
- Students will be asked not to bring foods to school that are an anaphylactic risk to a student in their class
- Students are to wash their hands before and after consuming food.
- Students are not permitted to eat during PE classes, are not permitted to use chewing gums, and are not allowed to eat other foods besides fresh fruit or vegetables during class times.
- Students are to eat morning tea and lunch in the classroom during designated eating times.
- Students are not permitted to wander around the school eating food at recess or lunch times.
- If for any reason, students do not finish eating their food in the classroom, they are required to finish eating in a designated outside quiet area, supervised by their classroom teacher, or take the food home.
- Students who purchase food from the canteen during recess or lunchtime must eat it in the designated outside quiet area supervised by the yard duty teacher.
- Rubbish bins will be placed in each classroom and in the designated outside quiet area.
- The school canteen will only sell foods consistent with the DET Healthy Canteen Kit – Food Planner (see Canteen Policy)
- Throughout the year, there will be occasions where students will be involved in shared food experiences. These activities are curriculum activities. Food related curriculum activities must adhere to a detailed risk assessment plan that takes into account any food related allergies in the class.
- We will continue to celebrate special events such as Birthdays and class parties. Parents are able to provide a birthday treat for their child to share with the class if the contents are well labelled and the children consume the food in class. **No food is to be taken home.** Children at risk of anaphylaxis should not share food brought in by other students; they can participate in spontaneous birthday celebrations by parents supplying a ‘treat box’ which is located in the child’s classroom. Students and teachers are not to supply Valentine treats, Easter treats or Christmas treats to other students.
- Parents are to notify the teacher regarding the birthday treat before it is brought into school (treats need to be eaten before lunch)
- Teachers are to notify parents in the grade of any food allergies.

Evaluation

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school’s three-year review cycle. Reviewed June 2020