



St Joseph's Memorial School

Nut Free Policy

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St. Joseph's Memorial School has adopted a Nut Free Policy to protect its students. Due to the presence of persons who have anaphylactic reactions, nuts present a considerable threat to the well-being of some of the school community.

An anaphylactic reaction can be fatal.

The symptoms of anaphylactic shock may include hives, itching, swelling, watery eyes, runny nose, vomiting, diarrhoea, stomach cramps, coughing, wheezing, throat tightness/closing, difficulty swallowing, difficulty breathing, dizziness, fainting, and loss of consciousness or a change of skin colour. The most dangerous symptoms are breathing difficulties or a drop in blood pressure, which is potentially fatal.

Anaphylaxis is rare, but preventable and treatable. We are a nut free environment for the safety of children who are anaphylactic to nuts and for those children who have unknown allergies to these products. The school has trained staff in the recognition, prevention and necessary treatment of anaphylaxis in children under their care. It is important to differentiate between anaphylactic reactions and other types of allergic reactions so appropriate treatment can be commenced. Anaphylaxis is a life-long and potentially fatal disability, which is to be treated with the highest priority.

This school has a duty of care to ensure the safety of all its children and as such, shall continue to support this school policy and develop further recommendations as necessary.

Nut products the school would like to avoid include peanut butter, Nutella and other nut spreads, chocolate bars with nuts in them like Snickers, some muesli products, some cake or biscuit products - the list is extensive. Nearly everything that is manufactured may have traces of nuts. Some less obvious ones include pesto, marzipan, and nougat. If parents could check the labels carefully before buying products for school lunches it would be greatly appreciated. If you have any questions about anaphylaxis or nut products, please contact the school.

Families are reminded of the School's Nut Free Policy annually at Parent meetings and termly at Preschool meeting

Staff Training

All Senior First aiders will receive training every 3 years by St. John's First Aid in the use of EpiPen administration through the renewal of their Senior First Aid training.

Other staff are also trained in EpiPen administering when they renew their Basic Casualty Care or alike certification done through a recognised first aid training programme

Identified Children

Those children who have nut allergies, they will have their photo taken and on display in the First Aid Room Medical Alert Students Folder held in the First Aid Room at each campus and on their medication packs that are stored in the First Aid room cupboards on the campus site the child attends.

Emergency procedures for teachers on duty should be followed.

Revision Record

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