

Risk Minimisation



Bracknell Primary School



Tasmania
Explore the possibilities

As a result of advice from health experts as outlined in the Anaphylaxis “Guidelines for Tasmanian Government Schools” Bracknell Primary has developed a risk minimisation policy as opposed to a nut-free policy, which is not the preferred option.

RATIONALE

There are students or staff at Bracknell Primary School who have or may have a severe allergic reaction to nuts and/or nut products, some insect bites, some medications, as well products containing milk or egg.

The allergic reaction experienced by some students, when coming into contact with “nuts or nut products”, is or could be life threatening. Therefore to support the maintenance of health and safety for all students at Bracknell Primary School, the school will continue to strongly advocate that no activities on the school site or during excursions, involve the intentional use or consumption of nuts or obvious nut products.

Students will also be strongly advised to avoid contact with insects while at school.

POLICY STATEMENT

To support the maintenance of health and safety for all students at Bracknell Primary School, the school site is a place where no activities on the school site or during excursions will involve the intentional use or consumption of nuts or obvious nut products. Students will also be strongly advised to avoid contact with insects while at school.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

- The School and School Association are supportive of and are kept informed of the Risk Minimisation Policy.
- School Newsletters provide constant reminders of school's Risk Minimisation Policy.
- Reminder signs are visible throughout the school including the main entrance to buildings.
- The school canteen - none of the foods provided contain nuts or obvious nut products.
- Students and staff at the school, with severe and/or life-threatening allergic reactions to any product or insect (anaphylaxis), must have Emergency Actions Plans to address reactions if and when they occur.
- All staff at the school will be provided with information about Anaphylaxis. This includes training in administration of Epipen for staff where necessary.
- Classroom programs provide opportunity for teachers and students to discuss what a "Harm Minimisation Policy" is and why it is necessary and to discuss the kinds of foods which are appropriate to bring to school for recesses and lunches, and the kinds of food which need to be avoided.
- Students with life-threatening allergic reactions will be considered for State-wide High Needs Register for students with severe medical conditions or disabilities, or additional school support if necessary.
- Parents/carers who wish to discuss appropriate foods or to learn more about this policy are welcome to speak with the Principal.

DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this policy the terms “Nuts” and “Nut Products” refer to any foods which contain specific pieces of any nut type in them or on top of them. It also refers to foods such as Peanut Butter or Nutella which are produced specifically from nuts. Foods on which the packaging indicates “may contain traces of nuts or made on equipment that also processes products containing nuts”, but which do not contain pieces of nuts or are not made from nuts, e.g. Milk Arrowroot biscuits, are not the foods referred to in this policy and students are able to bring them to school for recess or lunch foods.

POLICY REVIEW

This policy will be reviewed in 2017.