PURPOSE

At Apollo Parkways Primary School there are always a number of children with food allergies. We have children who suffer from severe allergic reaction to a range of different foods, in particular nut products. In some cases skin contact can trigger an allergic reaction which may be life threatening.

To ensure the safety of these children Apollo Parkways Primary School adopts a no food sharing policy across the school, excepting supervised classroom experiences.

GUIDELINES

- Upon enrolment parents are required to detail any known food allergies.
- All children with a food allergy will have an Emergency Management Plan (EMP) developed to support the management of their condition at school. This plan is developed jointly between a health professional, parents and the school.
- Each year all staff (teachers and education support staff) are trained in the administration of an Epipen. This training uses materials provided by the Department of Education & Early Childhood Development.
- In classes where children are identified with significant food allergies all parents will be notified and requested to cooperate in this management plan by refraining from sending food that may contain the relevant allergen.
- Students across the school are not permitted to share food at any time.
- Throughout the year there will be numerous occasions when students will be involved in shared food experiences within the classroom. These activities may be related to curriculum studies, when grades may share food as part of a cultural experience, or other occasions such as a grade party, or the celebration of a student’s birthday. To help ensure the safety of children during these activities all parents will be required to complete a “shared food experiences” consent form at the beginning of each year. In the event that a child does not have written consent the child will be excluded from all shared food experiences. Teams will seek approval for such experiences from the Leadership team. A shared food experiences note will be sent home to parents notifying them that this will be occurring in their child’s class.
- Students with severe food allergies may have supplied by their parents a ‘treat box’ for their personal use. This will be kept in the classroom and can be accessed by the child when the other students have the opportunity to celebrate a classmate’s birthday with a birthday cake or lollies that a parent may supply. (see anaphylaxis management)