

Mitcham Preschool Centre

Allergy Aware (“Nut Free”) Policy

Anaphylaxis is a life threatening condition caused by an extreme allergic reaction. There are children attending the Mitcham Preschool Centre who suffer from anaphylaxis, usually with an allergy to nut products. If they become exposed to nuts, they can become seriously ill, or in extreme cases, die.

Statement of Intent:

To protect our children within the Preschool who have nut allergies, the Preschool has a strict “Nut Free” Policy. This policy also provides information on how parents/carers should work with the Preschool to ensure that sufferers of anaphylaxis are safe at Preschool.

The Preschool prohibits any food products for snack, lunch or special occasions that contain nuts, including Peanut Paste or Nutella products.

1. If nut products are sent to Preschool for snack or lunch:

- 1.1. The food will be confiscated immediately.
- 1.2. The child will be provided with an alternative food.
- 1.3. The nut product will be returned to parents/carers at the end of the day. If parents/carers have alternative arrangements for collecting their children, they will be informed in writing.

2. If a child suffers from anaphylaxis, families must:

- 2.1. Provide the Preschool with a current health care plan signed off by their Doctor / Health Practitioner. The health care plan must include details about health support, emergency details and a photo of the child.
- 2.2. Ensure that the Preschool has appropriate medication for the child. The medication must be clearly named, be in date and be stored in the medical shelf in the back bathroom.
- 2.3. Emergency contact details must be provided to the Preschool at the time of enrolment.

3. All educators have first aid training in the administration of medication (epi pens) for an anaphylaxis reaction to food etc. First aid training is regularly updated, as specified by the Department of Education.

4. If a child has an anaphylaxis reaction, Medication must be administered by an educator, in accordance with the Health Care Plan, approved by a medical practitioner

Approved: Governing Council Chairperson

Approved: Mitcham Preschool Director