



Growing & Learning...TOGETHER

Lobethal Kindergarten Allergy Aware policy

Policy Number **7**

Issue Number **5**

Rationale:

At Lobethal Community Kindergarten we believe that all the children have a right to be and feel safe whilst attending our centre. Our paramount concern is for the safety and wellbeing for all children in our care. To keep our children well and safe at Kindy, we have created our Allergy Aware Policy.

Aims:

- To work in consultation with parents/caregivers and medical practitioners to exchange information and identify allergens and triggers for each individual child.
- To ensure that every child/adult that attends our centre with anaphylaxis has an agreed work site support plan which reflects their individual needs.
- To provide education on Allergy signs, symptoms and triggers to all children and parents
- To encourage all staff to undertake anaphylaxis training

Practices:

- Each family will receive a copy of our Allergy Aware Policy and we will add the policy to our enrolment package and staff induction package.
- We will promote allergy aware practices through newsletters, displays, excursions and within our learning programme.
- We have implemented our Allerbling bracelet system to ensure all children with allergies wear the appropriate Allerbling bracelet and all staff are made aware that before these children are offered any food they check the Allerbling bracelet for allergies.
- Staff will implement food handling and hygiene safety procedures to eliminate cross contamination of food.
- Staff will document any potential hazards and report and act on these immediately.
- All staff will ensure children wash their hands before and after eating to eliminate cross contamination.
- Lunch care workers will ensure that all tables and placemats are cleaned and disinfected before and that children with anaphylaxis will be placed on an "ALLERGY AWARE TABLE" close to the kitchen and close proximity to medications.

- Lunch care workers will ensure that the children do not share food they have brought from home for their own consumption with other children.
- If a function is held at the centre, where food is shared, staff will insist that our Allergy Aware policy will be promoted and implemented, there will be steps taken to ensure that there will be separate Allergy Aware food serviced. i.e. coloured plate/separate table
- In the event of an allergen being brought into the centre staff will endeavour to remove the allergen from the vicinity of the allergic child/person. For example, if a child brings an allergen in their lunch the child will be placed in the furthest table away from the Allergy aware table and a note placed in their lunch box as a reminder. We will also ensure that the said child washes their hands and face thoroughly after eating and that all remnants of the allergen are completely removed after.

Nut free policy/anaphylaxis:(when applicable)

We will declare our centre a NUT FREE ZONE in the event of a child with a severe nut allergy. These children cannot be exposed to nuts in any form, as this will trigger an anaphylactic reaction- that is a reaction that will require an immediate injection of adrenalin, ambulance attendance and hospitalisation.

This has very serious consequences for our Kindergarten and in these students best interest we have made the unanimous decision to ban all peanuts/nuts and food containing nuts within the centre.

What does this mean to parents to be a nut free centre?

In practical term this translates to:

- **No peanut butter or chocolate spread on food, in sandwiches, dips and snack packs.**
- **No biscuits and cakes containing nuts/peanuts**
- **No muesli bars containing nuts/peanuts**
- **No chocolate containing nuts/peanuts. i.e, snickers.**
- **No dried fruit and nuts mixes**

Please note that Australian made products (with known stringent manufacturing conditions) containing the warning "may contain traces of nuts" are considered to be of a relatively low risk and may be included in children's lunches and afternoon snacks.

Before coming to Kindergarten:

Research shows that even small traces of nuts/peanut residue can trigger a severe reaction. There for we are asking that you implement the following procedure:

- Children that have nut based products before attending kindergarten clean their teeth and wash their hands thoroughly at home.

If children come to Kindergarten with nut/peanut products in their lunch or snack we will be required to:

- Remove the product and replace it with a healthy alternative
- Alternatively we may ask the child to eat their product in a quarantined area and they will be required to wash their hands and face thoroughly after eating.

Egg aware policy (when applicable)

As with our Nut Free policy if we have a child with severe reaction to eggs. What does this mean to parents to be a egg aware centre?

- No predominantly egg based meals e.e. quiches, egg sandwiches, boiled eggs
- When supplying the kindergarten with egg cartons please ensure there is no egg residue present.

Animal aware policy: (when applicable)

We strongly promote the inclusion of animals in our kindergarten programme. However, some animals can trigger allergies or an anaphylactic reaction in children and adults. We will adhere to individual children's risk minimisation plans as required.

With this in mind we are asking that you consult staff before bringing animals into the kindergarten.

We know that you will support the kindergarten with the implementation of this policy and that you will do everything you can to make each child's kindergarten experience a safe and happy one. Thank you in anticipation of your continued support.

Policy created date 1/10/08

Policy review date 1/05/2017

Signatures:

Director :

Governing Council Chairperson: