

D-19 Encouraging a Nut-Free Zone

Epping Heights OSHC.

NQS

QA. 2.1	Health.
QA. 2.1.1	Wellbeing and comfort.
QA. 4.2.2	Professional standards.
QA. 6.1	Supportive relationships with families.
QA. 6.1.1	Engagement with the service.
QA. 6.1.3	Families are supported.
QA. 7.1.2	Management systems.

National Regulations

Reg. 90	Medical conditions policy
Reg. 91	Medical conditions policy to be provided to parents
Reg. 162	Health information to be kept in enrolment record
Reg. 168	Education and care service must have policies and procedures
Reg. 171	Policies and procedures to be kept available
Reg. 173	Prescribed information to be displayed

My Time, Our Place

LO. 1	Children and young people feel safe, secure, and supported
	Children and young people learn to interact in relation to others with care, empathy and respect
LO. 3	Children and young people are aware of and develop strategies to support their own mental and physical health and personal safety

Policy Statement

We believe the safety and wellbeing of children who are at risk of anaphylaxis is a whole-community responsibility. EHOSHC aims to be a nut-free zone in line with the anaphylaxis requirements of attending children. We aim to provide an environment which is safe and healthy for all children and in doing so, the Centre will reduce the risk of exposure to allergens where appropriate.

RELATED POLICIES

- Epping Heights OSHC Policy A-3: Philosophy
- Epping Heights OSHC Policy A-4: Enrolment

- Epping Heights OSHC Policy A-12: Policy Development and Review
- Epping Heights OSHC Policy C-3: Staff Orientation and Induction
- Epping Heights OSHC Policy C-9: Relief Staff
- Epping Heights OSHC Policy C-10: Volunteers / Students / Visitors
- Epping Heights OSHC Policy D-2: Hygiene
- Epping Heights OSHC Policy D-3: Food and Nutrition
- Epping Heights OSHC Policy D-4: Food Safety and Handling
- Epping Heights OSHC Policy D-15: Allergies
- Epping Heights OSHC Policy D-17: Anaphylaxis

Procedure

Parents will be advised that the Centre is encouraging a Nut-Free Zone on enrolment and will be reminded regularly through the Family Handbook, posters and newsletters.

To ensure the safety and wellbeing of all children, the following guidelines will be maintained at all times:

- Parents/guardians must advise the Centre if their child has any allergies or has been diagnosed with anaphylaxis at the time of enrolment, and must provide the relevant Medical Action Plan and medications (See Anaphylaxis Policy and Allergy Policy)
- All Parents/guardians will be asked to avoid packing lunches or snacks for their children which include nuts or nut products – examples could include:
 - Peanut Butter, Nutella, other spreads including nuts
 - Fruit and Nut mixes
 - Muesli Bars or other lunch box snack bars which include nuts
 - Lollies or chocolates containing nuts
- Children will be reminded not to swap or share lunches or snacks
- Products which include nuts in their ingredient list will not be supplied by the Centre (this does not include products with the warning 'may contain traces of nuts')
- Parents/guardians will be encouraged to always read the labels of food products prior to packing them for their children's lunches
- Allergy and anaphylaxis awareness will be encouraged amongst the Centre's community
- The Centre will reduce the risk of exposure to allergens during mealtimes and provide alternatives where an allergen may be present
- Vigilant observation whilst eating and handwashing to prevent cross contamination will be upheld
- Children will not be isolated from others or discriminated against due to an allergy
- If children bring food containing nuts into the service, they will be asked to let the educators know and after consumption will be requested to wash their hands and face with soap. Any surface the child with nuts was eating at will be cleaned and sanitised appropriately.

Practices and procedures in relation to safe food preparation and consumption will be reviewed each time an enrolment for a child with a risk of anaphylaxis is accepted at the centre.

Sources

- Education and Care Services National Regulations (2011)
- National Quality Standard
- Australian Children’s Education and Care Quality Authority (ACECQA)
- United Nations Rights of the Child (Article 24)
- Allergy and Anaphylaxis Australia - <http://www.allergyfacts.org.au/>
- Network of Community Activities Factsheet – ‘Anaphylaxis’

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