

FOOD POLICY

DATE OF APPROVAL: 12 October 1995

REVIEWED: June 2005

To be reviewed as required

POLICY STATEMENT:

The Kindergarten abides by the “Children’s Services Centres Regulations 1988” and the “CSV Infection Control Guidelines” concerning food provision, handling and consumption.

The kindergarten encourages the development of safe and healthy eating habits.

Food preparation and consumption at St Paul’s Anglican Kindergarten falls into three major categories

1. Children’s lunch, morning and afternoon tea; depending on session times as outlined in Kindergarten handbook
2. Food used as part of the Kindergarten program for learning activities and celebrations including children’s birthdays
3. Food consumed on the premises, for events either relating to the kindergarten or parish, outside of Kindergarten hours

POLICY SCOPE: This policy relates to food consumption in categories 1 & 2.

PROCEDURES:

Appropriate Foods and Food Provision

Food for children’s meals at kindergarten is provided by parents/guardians and should ideally be healthy and easily managed by the child. Examples of appropriate foods to bring are outlined in the Kindergarten handbook and discussed at orientation and include;

- Fruit
- Vegetables
- Cheese
- Sandwiches

Should parents wish to recognise their child’s birthday with cake to share at kindergarten it is recommended that small individual cakes be provided.

Water is the beverage provided during the year.

Food Allergies or Avoidance of Particular Foods

Parents/guardians are required to inform the Director/Three Year Old teacher concerning any factor which affects their child’s consumption of food, i.e. religious, cultural, food allergy or intolerance.

In the event of food allergy or intolerance, parents/guardians are required to provide instructions and/or authorisation for treatment in case of exposure to allergens, to Director/Three Year Old Group Teacher.

Peanuts

The Kindergarten does not allow peanuts or peanut products to be brought to kindergarten during session times in order to protect from the serious effects of anaphylactic shock.

Parents will be informed about this section of the Food Policy through the Kindergarten handbook and provided further information to support our objective of providing a safe and healthy environment for the children. This information will include the following specific instructions as well as supplementary health information:

- 1. Please do not send any peanuts or peanut related products to kindergarten with your child as part of their snacks/meals – no peanut butter sandwiches.**
- 2. When preparing food to share for celebrations (birthdays, cultural festivals) do not use peanut related products eg: peanut oil in cakes**
- 3. Please check the ingredients of any pre-prepared foods you send for traces of peanuts.**

Hygiene

Appropriate hygiene practices concerning food preparation and consumption are observed; e.g. washing hands prior to handling food, protecting food from contamination.

RELATED POLICIES

Health and Hygiene Policy
Anaphylaxis

RESPONSIBILITY

Director
Three Year Old Group Teacher
Assistants