



ST MICHAEL'S SCHOOL

(Est. 1914)
BASSENDEAN

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Allergy Friendly School Parent Information Sheet

We have a number of children enrolled at our school who have the potential to suffer anaphylaxis. This is a sudden, severe and potentially fatal allergic reaction to specific foods. Presently in our School Community we have children with severe allergies to foods such as Peanuts and Tree Nuts.

Most life-threatening reactions occur when nuts are eaten. Serious reactions can also occur from skin contact, eye contact and inhalation of nut particles.

We ask for your co-operation to minimize the risk of these students coming into contact with problem foods by following these simple steps:

Please don't give your children foods containing nuts or peanuts to bring to school.

Be aware many food items contain these nuts – eg peanut butter, nutella, certain muesli bars, chocolate bars and biscuits etc.

Please encourage thorough washing of hands and face with a damp cloth if they have eaten these foods before coming to school.

Please be aware of the dangers of cross contamination.

The Schools' main aim is to assist the students in the avoidance of allergic reactions. *Our Anaphylaxis Policy (refer attached)* has been formulated to help us provide a safe environment and prevent a tragedy occurring.

Frequently asked questions

Q What about foods that state “may contain traces of nuts”?

Foods which ‘may contain traces of nuts’ should be safe for NON-ALLERGIC children to eat at school. They cannot be eaten by the allergic child. To reduce the risk, children are not to share or trade their food.

Q When can my child eat nuts?

At any time other than school. Bringing nuts would put our anaphylaxis students at risk. We are asking you to do your best to ensure you do not send foods containing nuts to school. Please remind your child to wipe/wash their hands and mouth if they have eaten nuts (especially peanut butter) before coming to school.

Q Where can I get information?

Please speak to the teacher or the Administration Staff if you have any concerns. Further information on anaphylaxis can be obtained from www.allergy.org.au or www.allergyfacts.org.au

Please note that our school requests that no nut products be brought to the school, not just peanuts.

We are already proud of our students' attitude and support for those within our community with special needs and we thank you in anticipation of your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Laurie Bechelli

Laurie Bechelli
Principal