NUT REDUCED POLICY

Rationale: The implementation of a nut reduction policy is necessary because as a school we take responsibility for the health and wellbeing of our children, staff, families and visiting community members seriously.

No person should be placed in a situation and/or environment that may endanger their life. Therefore it is our school’s role to notify and educate parents and caregivers about the dangers that all nuts and nut-based products may cause for those who are most at risk of suffering allergic reactions.

Aim: To provide a safe and healthy environment for all children within our care, Koonawarra Public School will adopt a nut reduced policy in order to minimise the risk of all children with either mild or severe allergy having an anaphylactic reaction while attending school or school activities (eg. Excursions, fete).

Procedures:

The “Nut Reduced Policy” applies to all children and families attending Koonawarra Public School.

MINIMAL OR NO NUT products will be consumed or purchased for use within the school. Please beware that this includes but is not limited to:

- Peanut butter on sandwiches or within snack foods such as biscuit dippers
- Nutella or Nutella products
- Other obvious nut products including muesli bars or loose nuts

Please remember that even trace amounts of nut substances can be potentially life threatening for an allergic child.

Parent Responsibilities:

Ensure your child avoids bringing any nut products into school. We are aware that this is not always possible it is our intent to minimise the risk as best as we can.

Parents need to notify staff if your child is at risk of an anaphylactic reaction. We will provide support to assist you in the management of your child’s health while enrolled at Koonawarra Public School.

For this support to be effective it is important that:-

- A partnership is established between parents and the centre to share information and clarify expectations
- An agreed emergency response is developed (in serious situations of allergic reaction) in conjunction with parents and health care professionals
- Every effort is made to minimise exposure of children at risk of an allergic reaction to known triggers within the environment
If your child has been identified as being at risk of an allergic or anaphylactic reaction we will seek your assistance to:-

- Develop individual health care plans in conjunction with your health care professional ensuring that it is regularly reviewed
- Complete documentation in relation to the administration of medication required by DEC policy and procedures
- Develop alternative arrangements for your child in the case of special occasions i.e. children’s birthdays, cake stall days excursions.

Koonawarra Public School is mindful that a child may have their first reaction while at school. This will be documented into a school booklet and first aid may need to be administered, or in serious cases an ambulance may be contacted.

We need to work together to ensure that our school is a safe place for every child to attend. This will be achieved by limiting the introduction of nuts/nut products onto the site where possible. Please remember to wash hands and mouths after consumption of nuts/nuts products as this can have a follow on effect in the classroom.

REVIEW DATE: February 2015

Principal and Staff of Koonawarra Public School