

Samuel White' Infant School

SHARING OF FOOD POLICY

VISION

Our vision is one of everyone working together within the school community, in a happy, caring, safe environment to inspire, excite and challenge every individual to achieve lifelong skills through a joy of learning.

AIMS

We aim to ensure that all children

- Grow and learn in a caring and safe environment where every second counts and every child matters
- Are part of an inclusive broader curriculum and achieve their full potential
- Have confidence and high self esteem
- Respect themselves, each other and the environment
- Are able to work and play independently and collaboratively
- Are supported fully by the parents and the community

THE EQUALITY ACT 2010

Governors and staff have given careful consideration to the Equality Act 2010 and the nine protected characteristics when formulating this policy. As part of the Public Sector Equality Duty in the exercise of our schools functions we have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by the Equality Act 2010.
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
- Foster good relations between persons who share a protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

PURPOSE

It is important to minimise the risk to pupils at this school who have allergies and anaphylactic reactions. A 'Sharing of Food' policy will help to reduce the risk to such pupils. Such a policy can also be considered to assist in the general health and hygiene of pupils.

BROAD GUIDELINES

- All members of the school community need to be aware that pupils are not to swap or share food and can only eat food provided or approved by the parents.
- All staff must take on the responsibility for educating parents and pupils on the reasons for and details of this policy.
- Staff will be given the training required on this issue.

IMPLEMENTATION

- At the beginning of each school year the school will inform parents of the 'Sharing of Food' policy in the school newsletter.
- When children celebrate a birthday, food items are not permitted for the whole class, eg. a container of cupcakes. This applies to all foods. At the end of the day the child can be first in line to leave and the parent may bring items (eg. bag of sweets), which the child can then hand out to the class as they leave the classroom.
- A wide variety of learning and school based activities may include the handling of food. Notification will be given of any foods used during these activities as part of the classroom or wider school program.
- Details will be provided to class teachers regarding pupil's allergies. This information must be considered by the teacher at special times such as class parties and school trips. A note outlining specific celebrations will be sent home, this note must be returned and signed for pupils to participate.
- Teachers will be reminded of this policy at the first staff meeting each year and encouraged to plan a session with their class, to educate the pupils about the policy and reasons why food sharing is not a safe practice.
- Pupils are not permitted to share food. Pupils will be reminded by teachers about not sharing or swapping food at appropriate times such as lunch times.
- If pupils are found to have been sharing or swapping food, they will be counselled on the issue by the class teacher.
- If in any one year a child, staff member or parent has a severe reaction to a particular food, it may be required to exclude this food from the school premises.