



# BOULDER PRIMARY SCHOOL

## Policy: ALLERGY AWARE

Created: 2016

**Background:** Promoting a school as 'nut-free' is not recommended as it is impractical to implement and enforce, there is no evidence of effectiveness, it does not encourage the development of strategies for avoidance in the wider community and it can encourage complacency about risk minimisation if a food is banned. (Anaphylaxis Management Guidelines for Western Australian Schools, 2010)

### **Our Goal for the Boulder Primary School Community is**

To provide as far as practicable, a safe and supportive environment in which students at risk of anaphylaxis can participate equally in all aspects of school.

### **Behaviours We Seek:**

#### **School:**

How Boulder Primary School will respond:

- Actively involve the parents/guardians of each student at risk of anaphylaxis in developing risk minimisation and management strategies for the student.
- Ensure that an adequate number of staff members have an understanding of the causes, signs and symptoms of anaphylaxis and their role in the school's emergency response procedure.
- Provide training to staff on the use of an adrenaline autoinjector (Epipen).
- Display a copy of each child's action plan in appropriate places in the school.
- Have a designated person who informs casual staff of those students with action plans and the associated procedures.
- Be aware of high risk times (recess, excursions, carnivals, cooking) and have procedures in place to minimise the risks.
- Minimise students' exposure to foods such as peanuts and tree nuts.
- Request that parents/guardians do not include nut spreads in lunchboxes.
- Request that the school canteen does not sell products containing nuts.

#### **Parents:**

The School would like parents to:

- Inform office staff of their child's allergies and whether their child has been diagnosed with anaphylaxis.
- Meet with school staff to develop their child's Individual Anaphylaxis Plan.
- Provide an adrenaline autoinjector and any other medications to the school.
- Replace the adrenaline autoinjector and medications before expiry dates.
- Update the school, should their child's condition change.
- Educate their child about foods he/she can eat.
- Reinforce that their child should not share food.

### **Curriculum We Implement:**

Teachers and support staff will teach:

- Age appropriate information about allergies and allergens.
- Age appropriate information about responding to an anaphylactic situation.
- Age appropriate strategies to minimise exposure to known allergens such as: washing hands before eating, not sharing foods.

Students will:

- Wash hands before eating.
- Eat only their own foods (no sharing).
- Be respectful of students with different allergies.