

Penong Primary School

Respect Community Achievement



Government of South Australia
Department for Education



Allergy Awareness Policy / Nut Aware

Policy:

Penong Primary School is an allergy friendly school.

Penong Primary School promotes the values of Respect, Relationships and Communication. We aim to provide a safe learning environment for all members of the school community.

As such:

- Staff will be notified of the anaphylactic students.
- A copy of the emergency response for anaphylactic students will be posted in all staff areas
- Staff will be trained in the first aid response to anaphylaxis, that is the use of the "Epi-pen"
- Awareness programs will be held with classes, year levels and sections where anaphylactic students are placed
- Affected students will be encouraged to wear Medic Alert bracelets or necklaces.
- Health Care Plans will be provided by parents for all students who have allergies.

Venom Allergies

- Students with allergies will be informed of play areas that are the lowest risk for play.
- Students with allergies will wear shoes at all times when in grassed or garden areas.
- As a part of discipline, staff will ensure that students with allergies are not placed near flowering plants.
- Where approval is granted from families, students will be informed of colleagues in their classes/home groups with venom allergies so that everyone in the class can inform if a bite occurs during break times.

Latex Allergies

- Staff will avoid the use of party balloons.
- Staff will assist with avoidance of contact with swimming caps and latex gloves.
- Staff will not use bandaids on students with a latex allergy.

Medication Allergies

- Medications may be brought to school without the knowledge of staff. There is a risk that students may take others students' medications.
- Staff will regularly inform the school community about the administration of medications.
- Information about medication allergies and the importance of only taking medications prescribed for the individual, will be conducted as a part of the Drug Education Program.
- Our School will follow the DfE policy on administration of prescribed medications.

Food Allergies

- Where approval is granted from families, students will be informed of colleagues in classes/home groups with food allergies.
- Students will be taught safe food handling practices including washing hands before and after eating.
- Students will not share food.
- Students in the preschool/school will have 10 minutes monitored eating time before recess and lunch breaks.
- Food for the allergic students should only be approved by the student's parents/caregivers.
- Families will be informed of Special events at which food might be part.
- Families of class members will be informed of trigger substances and requested to avoid bringing these to school.

Nut Awareness

- Parents and Caregivers will be requested not to send food to school that contains nuts (especially peanuts) this includes peanut paste, nutella, and cooking oil containing peanut oil. This is especially important in the section of the school in which the allergic student is located.
- Students brining food that contains nuts or nut products will be asked to eat that food away from allergic students and to wash their hands before going to play.
- Parents and caregivers will be informed via the newsletter
- New families to the school will be informed via the enrolment information package

This school acknowledges that due to food processing practices it is impractical to eliminate nuts or nut products entirely from an environment where there is food. Thus we are an Allergy Friendly (Nut "Aware") School.

Reviewed August 2025

Signed *Karen Murray*
Principal

Signed *Allison Shipard*
Chairperson Governing Council

Next Review August 2028