



# Victor Harbor Community Kindergarten

## Policy for Animals in the Centre

Issue 7

25 March 2018

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### Policy Statement

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Victor Harbor Community Kindergarten is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for all children, staff members and visitors to the centre. By minimizing harm from visiting animals with hygienic and appropriate facilities for any animals in our care.. The staff are also committed to promoting the correct treatment of animals, whether that be animal visitors to the centre or those already located onsite.

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### Strategies for Prevention

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1. Promote the kindergarten as an allergy friendly and allergy aware community and include this policy as part of the enrolment process.
2. Ensure details of potential allergy triggers are made known to the kindergarten community.
3. Request all members of the kindergarten community to adhere to the following guidelines:
  - a. Foods containing **NUT** or **SUNFLOWER SEED** products are discouraged. This includes items such as peanut butter or Nutella sandwiches, loose nuts, muesli bars or other foods with nut-based products present.
  - b. Staff will intervene if a possible allergy trigger food is provided for snack time or lunch time. The child will be asked to eat this trigger food away from the group, with staff then ensuring the child washes their hands thoroughly before returning to the group.
  - c. Staff will prepare all foods at the kindergarten in accordance with the individual health requirements of the allergic child/children.
  - d. Staff will include allergy awareness as part of the children's learning program to develop an understanding of good health and safety.
  - e. Staff will assist children in knowing about their potential triggers and how to manage their allergy or allergies.
  - f. Parents and caregivers must check with staff before **ANIMALS** are brought onto the premises in case of allergies to **ANIMAL DANDER** (fur).
  - g. The director will negotiate a schedule with the cleaners for all mats and carpeted areas to be cleaned daily, therefor reducing the possibility of an allergic reaction occurring due to **DUST/ DUST MITES**.
  - h. For **further details**, please refer to the **VHCK Health and Medical Requirements Policy**.

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### Emergency Procedures

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1. Children prevalent to moderate or severe allergic reactions will need to obtain an Action Plan from their health care professional. A copy of the Action Plan will need to be provided to the kindergarten.
2. Any medication must be properly labelled and kept on site.
3. Staff will be trained in administering an EpiPen in the event of a suspected allergic reaction.
4. An ambulance will be called immediately after an EpiPen is administered.
5. Parents or caregivers and/or an Ambulance will be called for any unexplained moderate to severe allergic reaction.

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## Resources

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1. Allergy and Anaphylaxis Australia – a not for profit organisation that provides training, information and emotional support for families, individuals and teachers of those with allergies.
2. Women’s and Children’s Hospital Fact Sheets.

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## Approved and Checked By

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Review 2019

Approved and Checked By:

Centre Director

.....Date .....

Governing Council Representative

.....Date .....