INTRODUCTION
From time to time, children enrol in our service who experience allergies to nuts. Some reactions are severe (eg. anaphylactic) and some are less severe (eg. vomiting, stomach upsets, rashes etc..). Because we support the health needs of all our children, it becomes necessary to prohibit these offending foods from our site, and we thank all families for their support.

Advice from the Australian Society of Clinical Immunology and Allergy recommends minimising the risk of food induced anaphylaxis in kindergartens by:
• Obtaining medical information
• Education of carers
• Practical strategies to avoid exposure to known triggers
• Age appropriate education of children with severe food allergies.

*Note: The kindergarten acknowledges that due to food processing practices it is impractical to eliminate nuts or nut products entirely from an environment where there is food. Therefore we have opted to be a Nut “Aware” Kindergarten.

POLICY
Purpose:
• To provide a safe environment for all members of the Clarendon kindergarten community.
• To raise the awareness of all members of the community regarding severe allergies.

Management
• Parents and caregivers are requested NOT to send food to kindergarten with their child that contains nuts (especially peanuts). This includes Peanut paste products, Peanut / satay sauce, Nut biscuits, Nutella / chocolate spread, Crushed nuts on cakes / buns, Baklava or other nut pastries, Nuts in salads, Muesli bars, Nougat, any other product with nuts as a usual ingredient as well as foods containing nuts.
• No nut products to be included in food on special days or in any cooking activities at kindergarten
• Staff will supervise children eating at lunch time.
• Children are encouraged NOT to share food.
• Children will be encouraged to wash hands before and after eating.
• All staff will undertake in Basic Emergency Life Skills training to gain an understanding of dealing with Anaphylaxis (severe allergic reactions).

Promotion
• Parents and caregivers are informed via the Policy Pamphlet distributed to all families when affected children enrol
• New families to the kindergarten community are informed via the Enrolment Information Package.
• Governing Council are informed as new affected children enrol.
• Staff are aware of specific children via information in office and the kindergarten roll book (medical sect).
• Education, information and procedures are part of staff induction.
• Staff are in charge of Epi-pens and medications (these treatments will be supplied by the parent/caregiver)
• Staff are required to take Epi-pens, medications and medical plans on any excursions.
• Children are informed via teachers, letters and items in the newsletter.

If you have any queries, please see the Director.