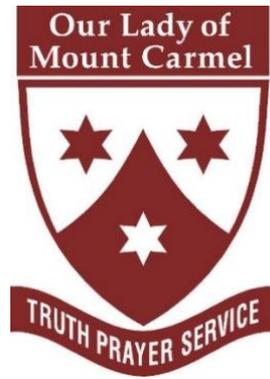


Our Lady of Mount Carmel School



Healthy Food Policy

RATIONALE

The human person, though made of body and soul, is a unity... The human body shares in the dignity of the image of God: it is a human body precisely because it is animated by a spiritual soul, and it is the whole human person that is intended to become, in the body of Christ, a temple of the Spirit.

‘Catholic schools contribute to the development of our young through education, particularly to their formation in Christian conscience and virtue’ (Mandate, para 6). Students in Catholic schools are educated to understand that they are physical/spiritual beings in relationship with God. Catholic schools encourage students to make responsible choices for their lives including healthy food choices.

Catholic schools have a legislative responsibility to provide appropriate levels of care to students in the education environment.

DEFINITION

Nil

SCOPE

This policy applies to all Catholic schools and early learning centres, including boarding accommodation, in Western Australia.

PRINCIPLES

- 4.1** A healthy and nutritious food and drink policy makes a positive statement to students, staff members, parents and the broader community about the value placed on human life.
- 4.2** It is important that parents, staff members and students work together to support a whole-school approach to building a school culture in which students actively choose nutritious food and a healthy lifestyle.
- 4.3** Nutritional food at affordable prices is the main focus when providing food to students in school communities.
- 4.4** Healthy canteen and vending machine choices complement the nutrition knowledge taught in the classroom and promote a school culture of healthy eating that may extend into the wider family and community. Policy statement 2-D4 Healthy Food and Drink Choices (Version 12 – 200813) Page 1 of 3.
- 4.5** The school curriculum, along with the family home, is the ideal place for students to learn about nutrition and making healthy food choices.

4.6 School communities and others supplying food in schools comply with the Catholic Education Commission of Western Australia policy statement 2-C14 'Occupational Safety and Health in Schools' in order to provide safe handling, preparation and serving of food.

4.7 Schools communities express their culture and traditions through events of significance which may include traditional and celebratory food choices.

PROCEDURES

5.1 Schools, in consultation with their school community, including canteen staff, volunteers and other interested members of the school community, shall develop a culturally inclusive school based 'Healthy Food and Drink Choices' policy which references the Anaphylaxis Management Guidelines for Schools.

5.2 School principals shall ensure that appropriate staff are trained in safe food handling, hazard identification, risk management and allergy prevention.

5.3 School canteens and vending machines shall promote a wide range of healthy and nutritious food and drinks and follow the minimum standard required to ensure that menus follow the 60% 'green' and 40% 'amber' food and drinks, according to the traffic light system in Appendix C of the Department of Education and Training Healthy Food and Drink Policy.

5.4 Schools providing food and drink choices other than through school canteens and vending machines shall promote a range of healthy and nutritious food and drink.

5.5 The Star Choice Buyers' Guide, which is a register of all products that meet minimum nutrient criteria for the food type, is recommended as a resource for planning menus and making decisions about serving sizes.

5.6 The Western Australian School Canteen Association and local health professionals can provide advice to schools on menus and products suitable for use in schools.

References

Bishops of Western Australia 2009, Mandate Catholic Education Commission of Western Australia: 2009- 2015

The Department of Education and Training, 'Healthy Food and Drink Policy', Appendix C <http://det.wa.edu.au/policies/detcms/policy-planning-and-accountability/policiesframework/policies/healthy-food-and-drink>

Western Australian School Canteen Association, 'The Star Choice Buyers' Guide' available at www.waschoolcanteens.org.au

