

Food, Nutrition and Beverage Policy

NQS

NQS	2.2.1	Healthy eating is promoted and food and drinks provided by the service are nutritious and appropriate for each child.
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National Regulations

Regs	77	Health, hygiene and safe food practices
	78	Food and beverages
	79	Service providing food and beverages
	80	Weekly menu
	90	Medical conditions policy
	91	Medical conditions policy to be provided to parents
	162	Health information to be kept in enrolment record
	168	Education and care service must have policies and procedures

My Time, Our Place

LO3	Children become strong in their social and emotional wellbeing.
	Children take increasing responsibility for their own health and physical wellbeing.

Aim

Chabad Youth aims to promote good nutrition and healthy food habits and attitudes to all children and families at the service. We also aim to support and provide for children with food allergies, dietary requirements or restrictions, and specific cultural or religious practices.

Related Policies

Additional Needs Policy

Enrolment Policy

Health, Hygiene and Safe Food Policy

Medical Conditions Policy

Implementation

Educators will ensure they provide adequate and sufficient food and beverages to each child, and that they are nutritious, healthy and meet each child's individual dietary needs. They will also promote healthy food options and resources based on Australian dietary guidelines to families, so they have the information necessary to provide healthy food options at home.

The Nominated Supervisor, educators, staff, volunteers and students will:

- ensure children have access to water and offer them water regularly during the day.
- ensure children are offered foods and beverages throughout the day that meet their nutritional and developmental needs and any specific dietary requirements. These requirements may be based on written advice from families (eg in the enrolment form) or as part of a child's medical management plan.
- provide foods that take into account each child's likes, dislikes, culture and religion. Families will be reminded to update this information regularly or when necessary.
- ensure routines are flexible enough so that children who do not eat during routine meal or snack times, or who are hungry, are provided with food. Educators will not force children to eat food they do not like or more than they want.
- ensure food is consistent with the Government's -

- Australian Dietary Guidelines 2013

<http://www.nhmrc.gov.au/guidelines/publications/n55>

A Summary of the Guidelines is available at

http://www.nhmrc.gov.au/files_nhmrc/publications/attachments/n55a_australian_dietary_guidelines_summary_book_0.pdf

and/or

- Infant Feeding Guidelines 2012

http://www.nhmrc.gov.au/files_nhmrc/publications/attachments/n56_infant_feeding_guidelines.pdf

A summary of the Infant Feeding Guidelines is available at
<http://www.nhmrc.gov.au/guidelines/publications/n56>

- follow the guidelines for serving different types of food and the serving sizes in the Guidelines and may use the Australian Government “eat for health” calculator
<http://www.eatforhealth.gov.au/eat-health-calculators>.
- encourage families to provide healthy food for their children at home which is consistent with the Australian Dietary Guidelines
- provide food that is safe and prepared hygienically by following the relevant procedures set out in the Health, Hygiene and Safe Food Policy.
- provide food and beverages that minimise the risk of children choking.
- provide a weekly menu of food and beverages based on the Australian Dietary Guidelines that accurately describes the food and beverages provided every day.
- display the weekly menu on our display screen. We will also display nutritional information for families and keep them regularly updated.
- ensure meal times are relaxed, pleasant and timed to meet most children’s needs.
- integrate learning about food and nutrition into the Curriculum.
- never use food as a punishment, reward or as a bribe.
- model and reinforce healthy eating habits and food options with children during eating times.

The Nominated Supervisor will ensure staff receive training in nutrition, food safety and other cultures’ food customs if professional development in these areas is required.

Sources

Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011

My Time, Our Place Framework for School Age Care

National Quality Standard

Safe Food Australia, 2nd Edition. January 2001

Get Up & Grow: Healthy Eating and Physical Activity for Early Childhood

Australian Dietary Guidelines 2013

Eat for health: Dept Health and Ageing and NHMRC

Food Standards Code

Food Safety Standards www.foodstandards.gov.au

Food Safety Standards for Australia 2001

Food Standards Australia and New Zealand Act 1991

Food Standards Australia New Zealand Regulations 1994

Food Act 1984

Department of Health Vic: Food Safety

Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004

Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2007

Australian Breast Feeding Association Guidelines

Staying Healthy: preventing infectious diseases in early childhood education and care services

Review

The policy will be reviewed annually by:

- Management
- Employees
- Families
- Interested Parties
- **Last reviewed: 1st May 2023 Date for next review: 1st May 2024**