

CANTEEN POLICY OF ROCKDALE PUBLIC SCHOOL

Promoting Children's Health

Why have healthy foods in canteens?

The school canteen reflects to students the value the school puts on healthy eating practices.

The school canteen is an integral part of the school and as such will illustrate and complement classroom programs. As well as an educational role, it has an important service, social and cultural role in our multicultural society.

For many students who use the canteen regularly, the food purchased there makes a significant contribution to total food intake and nutrition. Nutrition is important to health throughout life. It is particularly important at times of rapid growth and development, which include the school years.

Poor dental health, overweight, obesity, underweight, poor physical fitness, constipation, high levels of fatty substances in the blood and elevated blood pressure are associated with diet and these conditions have been identified in studies of children in Australia.

The school canteen will aim to:

- a. Provide an enjoyable, nutritious and attractively presented selection of food and drink at reasonable prices.
- b. Help reduce health risk factors by encouraging the development of good eating habits consistent with the Dietary Guidelines for Children and Adolescents.
- c. Provide foods recommended by the NSW School Canteen Association through the Recommended Food list and current Healthy Kids Buyers' Guide. These foods will be promoted using taste tests, specials, meal deals or theme days.
- d. Develop an appreciation of the social, ethnic and cultural aspects of foods, as well as the nutritional aspects.
- e. Provide students with practical learning experiences about making healthy food choices that reinforce classroom teaching on nutrition.
- f. Function as an efficient business enterprise.
- g. Demonstrate high standards of hygiene in relation to the preparation, storage and serving of food at the canteen in accordance with the new ANZFA Safety Standard 3.2.2. Div 4.

- h. Through the canteen committee, provide an opportunity for the school community to participate in decisions concerning the operation of the school canteen.
- i. Encourage courtesy and consideration among all personnel using canteen facilities.
- j. Provide an opportunity for parent and community involvement in their children's education environment.
- k. Provide a financial contribution towards resources for all students in the school.

Distribution of the policy document

- a. A current copy of this policy and supporting documents will be on permanent display in the school canteen.
- b. A copy of a signed, dated and most recent school canteen policy will be given to all canteen committee members at the first canteen meeting.

Administration

- The Canteen is Lease Operated.
- The Canteen will operate 5 days per week and be open from 8.30am-2.00pm.
- The Canteen Manager is responsible for the employment of canteen workers and advising them of hygiene procedures.
- The Canteen Supervisor will implement decisions made by the Canteen Committee.
- The canteen committee meets once a term to discuss and review workings of the canteen and to consider any necessary changes to pricing and/or food items sold.
- Professional Development for the Canteen Supervisor will be encouraged and supported.
- The selection of foods is in compliance with FRESH TASTES – the NSW Healthy School Canteen Strategy.
- The school canteen is an integral part of the school and as such will illustrate and complement classroom programs. As well as an educational roll, it has an important service, social and cultural role in our multicultural society.

Leased Canteen

The school canteen agreement entered into between the leasee and the school is to be consistent with the principles recorded in the Department of Education and Training Guidelines for School Canteens, 1999 and the school canteen policy.

Gifts/Concessions

All discounts, allowances, complimentary articles, gifts, concessions and the proceeds there of from any supplier of goods or services, directly or indirectly, to the Canteen shall remain the property of the Canteen and be properly recorded and later accounted for at the time of stock taking.

Alterations to this Policy

This policy shall not be added to, or amended, except at a Special Meeting thereof (called for that purpose); and then only with the approval of two-thirds of those present and entitled to vote.

This policy will be reviewed annually by the canteen committee and suggested amendments made accordingly.

Registration

We the undersigned hereby certify that this policy was adopted in 2004 at the meeting of the school committee held on:

Date : _____

Committee Members:

- Canteen Manager : _____
- Principal : _____
- Staff Representative : _____
- Student Representatives : _____
- Parent Representative : _____

