

## ▲ CELEBRATIONS

### ▲ NQS

**Element 1.1.** The educational program enhances each child's learning and development;

**Element 1.2.1** Educators are deliberate, purposeful, and thoughtful in their decisions and actions;

**Element 1.3.3** Families are informed about the program and their child's progress

**Element 2.1.3** Healthy eating and physical activity are promoted and appropriate for each child;

**Element 5.1** Respectful and equitable relationships are maintained with each child

**Element 5.1.2** The dignity and rights of every child are maintained

**Education and Care Services National Regulations:** 168 (2)(a)(i)

### ▲ PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to establish procedures for celebrating special events at FROEBEL. The intent is to create diverse and inclusive opportunities for children to experience celebrations, including those with special dietary requirements.

### ▲ POLICY

FROEBEL services believe they are a part of the 'village that raises a child' and this includes the celebrations which are important and meaningful to children and families.

It is the policy of FROEBEL services to engage in ongoing discussion, reflection and planning for celebrations, which contribute to children's learning and development within their own community, and the FROEBEL community.

### ▲ PROCEDURES

- Families, children and educators are encouraged to discuss and share with the centre the events which are special to them;
- The Centre Director and Educational Leader, will lead the team in populating an events calendar, based on contributions from families, children and educators;
- Educators will collaborate and identify events which they will incorporate into the educational program, as part of the learning and development for individual and groups of children;

- Individual celebrations such as birthdays, will be celebrated in ways that do not include sweet treats, and alternative acknowledgement will be provided for the child(ren) on those days. This may include singing Happy Birthday, receiving a birthday sticker, or wearing a birthday crown.
- The children will be encouraged to share their ideas for celebrating events and educators will scaffold and support the implementation of their ideas as part of their intentional teaching and planned programming.
- We understand that there are times when food forms part of a celebration, and when appropriate, we will engage children in cooking experiences which may contribute to the event or celebration.
- When events take place outside of the service, families may be asked to contribute food. The Centre Director will remind families which foods are preferable to ensure we remain food safe and allergy aware.

### ▲ SOURCES AND FURTHER READING

- Healthy eating advisory service  
<http://heas.health.vic.gov.au/early-childhood-services/allergy-and-intolerance/allergy-policy-and-action-plans>
- Australian society of clinical Immunology and allergy  
<https://www.allergy.org.au/>
- Dau, E., & Jones, K. (2016) *Revisiting celebrations with young children*, in *The Anti-Bias Approach in Early Childhood*, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition. MultiVerse Publishing.

### ▲ ASSOCIATED POLICIES

- Allergies Policy
- Food Preparation and Serving and Storage Policy
- Food Safety and Hygiene Policy
- Food and Nutrition Policy
- Inclusion statement

### ▲ POLICY REVIEW

- The Centre (together with educators) will review this policy every 12 months.
- The Approved Provider and Centre Director ensure that at all times all educators maintain and implement this policy and its procedures.
- Families are encouraged to collaborate with the Centre to review the policy and procedures.

**Last review:** 10.05.2023 **Next review:** 10.05.2024

