



Food and Beverage Policy

Flinders Children's Centre provides food and beverages for children attending the centre. Staff must adhere to the policy outlined below:

Beverages

- ✓ Kitchen staff are to fill the water container with chilled water before the children arrive
- ✓ During morning set up kitchen staff will provide each child with a clean drinking cup clearly labelled with their name as they sign into the centre
- ✓ Cups are hung within the child's reach on our cup trolley and placed near urn
- ✓ The trolley is accessible to all the children and the trolley and urn will be taken outside on hotter days to encourage more frequent drinking
- ✓ A bucket and rubber mat must be placed under tap to prevent any hazards from water spillage throughout the day
- ✓ All staff are to monitor the tap and assist children with getting a drink throughout the day
- ✓ All staff are to monitor hazards around drinking area and take the necessary steps to clean up any spills
- ✓ All staff are to encourage the children to get a drink whenever necessary such as when they have been overly active or look warm, out of breath or thirsty
- ✓ Kitchen staff will check water levels during afternoon group time and will refill or refresh the water if necessary
- ✓ Kitchen staff will ensure at this time that the spill bucket is not overly full
- ✓ All children will be encouraged to hang up and find their own cups when thirsty
- ✓ Kitchen staff will ring a bell to remind children to drink water during the day
- ✓ During our lunch time routine children find their cup before sitting for food and staff use chilled jugs of water to fill their cups and monitor their drinking
- ✓ Once all children have exited the centre staff are to safely dispose of leftover water in both the urn and spill bucket
- ✓ All cups are then placed in the dishwasher to be sterilised, dried and stored in the appropriate container in the pantry ready for the next day

Food

- ✓ Kitchen staff will prepare food in the morning adhering to Health, Hygiene and Safe food practices policy
- ✓ On arrival children who have not been provided breakfast at home will be offered toast or cereal
- ✓ Children will be given the option to have fruit during our morning group time
- ✓ Fruit will be provided in individual containers and all children wash hands before eating to adhere to hygiene guidelines
- ✓ Children who do not bring food from home are provided sandwiches and dessert for lunchtime
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- ✓ They are encouraged to eat their lunch and are welcome to second helpings if they are still hungry
- ✓ Children are talked to about the need for food and food wastage
- ✓ Children with dietary concerns are catered for
- ✓ In the afternoon before home time the centre provides children with a snack usually consisting of cheese, crackers, meats and fruits

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Chairperson

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