



CARLTON PUBLIC SCHOOL

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION GUIDELINES

Revised 2024

The following guidelines outline the procedure when celebrating our students' birthdays at school. A child's birthday is a wonderful time to celebrate and for many of our students, they wish to share this experience with their classmates and peers. Students are welcome to celebrate their birthday at school. At Carlton Public School we acknowledge student birthdays whilst recognising and respecting the health needs and beliefs of other students and families.

RATIONALE

Birthdays are special milestones for children and may be celebrated by families in different ways. For some students, traditional birthday 'foods' may create a problem due to allergens. At Carlton Public School we encourage a healthy lifestyle and acknowledge, respect and are reflective of the various views held by our community.

PROCEDURES

Parents and Carers will:

- have the opportunity to provide a food item for peers within their child's class. If families choose to provide food items they must:
 - provide sufficient for every member of their child's class.
 - provide store-purchased individually wrapped **small** chocolates (eg 'Freddo Frogs') for each child
 - avoid chocolates with nuts as it is a common allergen that may cause anaphylactic reactions for some students.
 - ensure packaging must have ingredients list visible for health and safety reasons.
- refrain from giving out party invitations during school time if parents are organising a party outside of school, particularly if not all children are invited as it can lead to some children feeling excluded. Parents will give party invitations out after school to the parents or contact them privately.

Note:

- no homemade cakes are permitted.
- there can be no cakes/items that need to be cut prior to consumption.
- lolly bags and toys may be suitable for a private party but can put pressure on other children and families if they feel they may need to match up and keep up with the last novelty.

Teachers will:

- distribute birthday treats at the end of the day so parents can determine if their child is permitted to have the treat.
- ensure that student birthdays are celebrated by making their birthdays part of our daily messages.
- celebrate the students' birthday through singing 'Happy Birthday' and/or providing a birthday certificate for the child.