



Canteen Policy



Help for non-English speakers.

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact Maryborough Education Centre (MEC) on 5461 7900.

RATIONALE

MEC canteen reflects the value the school puts on healthy eating practices for students and the wider school community. In addition to providing nutritious foods, the canteen has an important health promoting, educational and sociocultural role within the school. For students that use the canteen regularly, the foods purchased there make a significant contribution to their total food intake and nutrition.

GOALS

- Provide an enjoyable, nutritious and attractively presented selection of foods and drinks at reasonable prices.
- Promote and encourage healthy food choices.
- Function as an efficient professional service for our school community.

GUIDELINES

- Provide food service 5 days per week over 2 break times during school terms and cater for special events as required.
- Provide foods consistent with the [Australian Dietary Guidelines 2013](#) and the [Department of Education & Training's School Canteens and Other School Food Services Policy](#).
- Engage with classrooms and other school activities to complement and reinforce healthy eating messages.
- Offer a wide range of foods that takes into consideration Australia's multicultural society and variety of dietary requirements such as allergies and intolerances.
- Ensure MEC is in accordance with the ['Go for your life' Healthy Canteen Kit – Food Planner](#).
- Any changes to the menu are discussed in consultation with the canteen committee, school executive, school council and canteen manager.
- Promote and market healthy choices.
- Provide seasonally appropriate foods.
- Comply with the current food safety and hygiene regulations [Guidelines for Personal Hygiene and Food Safety in Schools.pdf](#).
- The canteen manager will be a certified food handling and safety supervisor.
- All canteen staff will be required to complete relevant food hygiene and safety training and follow personal and professional hygiene requirements.
- Comply with the current [Occupational Health and Safety \(OH&S\) regulations](#) and [Canteen Food Safety Guidelines](#).
- All canteen staff and volunteers will be made aware of evacuation procedures in case of fire or other emergency.

- The canteen will make use of volunteer help wherever possible as per the MEC Volunteers policy.
- Volunteers will be provided with orientation training by the canteen manager and supported in their work by all canteen staff.
- Volunteers will be provided with appropriate food safety and hygiene and OH&S training.

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	May 2025
Consultation	Canteen Committee, April 2025 Education Policy, May 2025
Approved by	School Council, 27 th of May, 2025
Next scheduled review date	This policy was last updated on 27 th May 2025 and is scheduled for review on May 2028 as part of the school's three year review cycle.

Signed:



Anita Ford
School Council President

Date 27.05.2025