**DEER PARK WEST PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**NO. 5032**

**Empowered to Learn, Empowered to Grow,**

**Empowered to Lead**

**Birthday Treat Sharing Policy**

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to:

* provide an outline to students, parents, and staff of how birthdays can be acknowledged and celebrated safely with their peers at school
* ensure that the celebration does not conflict or interfere with the school’s teaching and learning programs.

**SCOPE**

This policy relates to families wanting to acknowledge their child’s birthday with peers at school.

**POLICY**

At Deer Park West Primary School, we acknowledge and celebrate individual students’ birthdays in many ways appropriate to their year level. This may include the class singing ‘Happy Birthday’ and the student wearing a special item e.g. badge indicating it is their birthday.

At our school, the safety and health of our students is of the utmost importance and therefore food treats as gifts are strongly discouraged. It is exceedingly difficult to verify the ingredients in every food product that is brought to school. Furthermore, we have students with a wide range of moderate and severe allergies to various nuts, milk products, wheat, soy and fruits.

Therefore, we request the following:

* If food items are being shared, they must be individually pre-packaged e.g. Freddo frogs
* Consider other options such as non-food items such as a pencil or sticker

Please note the following:

* No food items that contain nuts
* No lolly bags
* No cakes or food items that need to be cut up or distributed
* No home prepared foods

If families wish to bring above items, these will be distributed at the end of the day for students to take home.

**Evaluation**

This policy will be reviewed as required.