



# St Joseph's Primary School Kangaroo Point

## Birthday Invitations Policy

Approved: April 2012

At St Joseph's, we ask that parents do not send personal party invitations to school to be distributed.

### Rationale:

Birthdays are celebrated and recognised at our weekly school assemblies.

Children can be invited to birthday parties through parent contact on a personal basis. A voluntary parent contact list is available to all parents upon the commencement of the new school year, to communicate via telephone or email or to allow party invitations to be posted.

### Policy for Birthday Food:

If parents wish for their children to celebrate birthdays with classmates at school they are requested to comply with the following...

- Small cup cakes for each class member; or
- Water iceblock for each class member
- No party bags; and
- No additional treats

### Procedure:

From time to time, parents wish to provide food for their children to celebrate their birthday with classmates at school.

The Healthy Food and Drink Supply Strategy for Queensland Schools developed as a Queensland Government initiative is about offering healthy food and drink choices to students in Queensland schools. Foods distributed at school have caused concern, particularly surrounding birthdays celebrated during class time. Schools have been asked to monitor and restrict unhealthy 'occasional' foods (foods low in nutritional value, high in saturated fats or sugars) and are to discourage the distribution of these foods. Distribution of party food results in a loss of class teaching and learning time, and can become time consuming. Students with allergies and dietary requirements must also be considered.

Unsafe, unnecessary and unhealthy items have been appearing more frequently and teachers **cannot** distribute these party items to students (eg. sparklers, party poppers, lolly bags etc.).

This policy is open to change upon directives from Brisbane Catholic Education in the drafting and implementation of a formal school policy about dietary and health restrictions.