



## Mountain Community Children's Centre

### Birthday Cake and Food from Home Policy

**Rationale:** Birthday's and cultural events are often a special time for families and may be celebrated with cakes or specific foods.

**Aim:** At Mountain Community Children's Centre we endeavour to support families with their personal and cultural celebrations as well as monitoring the health and safety of children, staff and visitors who will share the food.

**Procedure:**

Families may bring a cake or food to share with the children, staff or visitors to help celebrate birthdays or significant cultural events.

Upon enrolment families are required to sign on enrolment form as to whether their child is permitted to participate in celebrations or cultural events. Staff will ensure that all children attending on the day of the celebration have permission to do so.

Families who do bring cake or food from home are required to identify and record the ingredients on a separate piece of paper that will be attached to the reflection diary for that day. Alternatively, families can cut out the ingredients from a packet or shop bought cake and bring this along to the centre.

To help prevent the risk of transmission of air borne disease, staff will cover the cake / food with a film of cling wrap prior to placing the candles for the child to blow out. Alternatively staff may place the candles into a separate 'playdough cake' to alleviate the need for cling wrap. Staff may encourage families to bring along cup cakes.

Staff will closely supervise candles, cutting knives and cakes.

In reference to our Food Safety Policy, staff will thoroughly wash their hands prior to cutting or serving food or cake and rewash or use separate serving utensils to prevent cross contamination if serving different food types.