

Food Storage Guidelines

Information about food taken into QEC from external sources.

Families must ensure all foods brought into QEC are safe and are consumed in compliance with food safety legislation.

Families must always check with clinical staff before storing food from external sources to ensure compliance with food safety.

External sources relate to retail vendors such as supermarkets and restaurants.

Bringing meals into QEC

Our meals aim to cater for all. We have a kitchen that supplies cooked, nutritious meals that cater to your dietary requirements for each meal. However, if your preference is to bring in external meals to QEC, please ensure you comply with these Food Storage Guidelines.

Meals left at room temperature can allow harmful bacteria to grow, putting you and your child at risk of becoming unwell. Transporting and inadequately reheating food or reheating food multiple times can also promote conditions for bacteria to grow.

If you or your child does not finish their meal, it must be discarded. Partially eaten meals or leftovers must not be stored in the fridge for later use and will be thrown out.

QEC employee will not be involved in the preparation, handling and provision of meals brought in from home or external sources.

Bringing in non-perishable snack foods

Non-perishable items (e.g. breakfast cereals, fresh whole and dried fruit, sweet and dry biscuits, plain cakes, muffins, scones, pretzels, chips, confectionary, soft drinks and UHT milk) can be brought in from external sources and stored in your room. They must be individually sealed and packaged.

Bringing in packaged single-serve items requiring refrigeration

Perishable, single-serve, sealed items such as yoghurts, drinks, custards, can be brought into QEC under the following conditions:

- They must be stored in the family fridge (located in the dining room) until you are ready to eat it.
- They must be clearly labelled with your name, room number and the date the food is placed in the fridge, using the labels available next to the fridge.
- Any open item must be completely consumed or discarded. They must not be returned to the family fridge.

Staff will discard any food found in the family fridge which does not meet these guidelines.



WARNING:

QEC cannot accept responsibility for the safety of food prepared from external sources. These foods may be discarded without consultation in the interest of protecting the food safety of all families, in compliance with food safety regulation.

We thank you for your cooperation in helping to make sure food is safe for you and your family.