



NATIONAL HEALTHY SCHOOL CANTEENS PROJECT

The National Healthy School Canteens Project (NHSCP) is part of the Australian Better Health Initiative (ABHI) implementation plan, endorsed by Australian Health Ministers in 2006. ABHI aims to promote good health and reduce the burden of chronic diseases. The NHSCP is managed by the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing, and will be undertaken by Flinders Partners in partnership with Flinders University from April 2008 to April 2010.

The NHSCP will assist school canteens to provide healthy food choices and, as a consequence, promote good health through healthy eating. The NHSCP consists of three components: a national food categorisation system for school canteens, based on a set of nutrient criteria; national training resources for canteen staff; and an evaluation framework.

The food categorisation system will provide an evidence-based guide to the selection of food and beverages for sale within school canteens. The system will build on existing healthy school canteen initiatives and include macro and micro nutrients, portion size, food additives and allergies, cultural sensitivities, availability and environmental considerations. Training resources will also be developed for use by jurisdictions for training of canteen managers, staff and volunteers and school staff in the implementation of the food categorisation system. Implementation of the components, once developed, will be at the discretion of state and territory governments.

The NHSCP Reference Group, comprising representatives from each state and territory health department, will provide advice on the development of the components throughout the duration of the project. Broad consultation will take place with a range of key stakeholders, including canteen managers.

NHSCP Reference Group

Ingrid Coote	Senior Officer	Health Promotion Unit, ACT Health
Judy Seal	Principal Advisor	Public Health Nutrition, Population Health, Dept of Health and Human Services Tas
Kathleen Alleaume	Policy Officer	Strategic Policy & Partnerships Branch, Centre for Health Advancement, NSW Health
Michelle Chiller	Health Promotion	Public Health Division, Dept of Human Services Vic
Peta Turner	Principal Policy Officer	Population Health Policy Branch, Dept of Health WA
Rachael Farquharson	Senior Public Health Nutritionist	Health Promotion Unit, Public Health Services, Queensland Health
Trish Carter	Chief Project Officer	Public Health Nutrition, Health Promotion Branch, Dept of Health SA
Vivienne Hobson	Program Manager	Nutrition & Physical Activity Program, NT Dept Health and Community Services
Carrie Turner		

Project Team

Lynne Cobiac	Project Manager	Nutrition and Dietetics, Flinders University
Lynnette Field	Project Officer	Nutrition and Dietetics, Flinders University
Jane Scott	Nutritionist/Dietician/ Health Educator	Nutrition and Dietetics, Flinders University
Claire Drummond	Health Educator/School Canteen Specialist	Paramedic and Social Health Sciences, Flinders University
Elizabeth Kellett	Nutritionist/Dietitian	Dietetics and Nutrition, Flinders Medical Centre
John Coveney	Evaluation Manager	Public Health, Flinders University
Gwyn Jolley	Evaluation Manager	Public Health, SACRU, Flinders University
Dianne Whittington	Training Development Officer	Flinders University
Julie Gardner	Contract Manager	Flinders Partners

Key project dates

2008	18 July	-	30 Aug	Conduct focus group testing with canteen managers and food industry
	4 June	-	26 Aug	Establish web site
	15 Aug	-	29 Aug	Consult with Reference Group re nutrient criteria
	18 July	-	26 Sep	Develop nutrient criteria and food categorisation system
	26 Sep	-	2 Oct	Prepare discussion paper in consultation with Reference Group
			3 Oct	Post discussion paper on web site
	10 Oct	-	6 Nov	National face-to-face consultations
	28 Nov	-	2 Dec	Feedback from Reference Group on training resources
			9 Dec	Second Progress report posted on website
	1 Dec	-	19 Dec	Consultation and process evaluation
	26 Sep	-	19 Dec	Develop and pre test resources with focus groups
2009	19 Dec	-	30 Jan 09	Finalise resources for inclusion in pilot training
	'08			
	24 Dec	-	25 Mar	Prepare draft evaluation framework
	'08			
	16 Feb	-	24 Apr	Face to face consultations – draft evaluation framework
	31 Mar	-	30 Jun	Deliver training
	2 July	-	25 Aug	Circulate electronic training program and materials for comment
	25 Aug	-	22 Sept	Finalise draft version of training materials
	1 Jun	-	30 Sept	Trial evaluation in selected schools
			27 Oct	Submit final report on training materials
	1 Oct	-	28 Apr	Finalise evaluation framework
2010	1 Mar	-	12 Mar	Hard copies and electronic versions of training materials to DoHA
			28 Apr	Final Report

For more information about the project, please visit the project website at

<http://www.nhsc.com.au>



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