

Substitutes for ingredients with limited availability during COVID-19

Nutrition for Outside School Hours Care • another NAQ Nutrition program

Through the global pandemic of COVID-19, restrictions have been placed on certain foods limiting availably of these items. We acknowledge that planning your menus through this time will be challenging. See the information below for some ingredient swaps you can try in your setting.

Food item	Substitute
Pasta and dry	Other foods from the from the bread and cereals food groups, i.e. bread, wraps,
rice	crackers, cereals. For example, if you had spaghetti bolognaise on the menu but you
	have no pasta, cook the mince as usual and use cous cous instead of the pasta
Flour	For 1 cup of flour you can substitute for
	• 1 cup rolled oats
	Make your own oat flour – put oats in the food process and blend until a medium-fine flour is formed
	 Flour alternatives such as oat flour, rice flour, corn flour (mix these products with flour to use less of your limited flour)
	Pureed beans or legumes such as white beans, use black beans in a chocolate/cocoa-
	based dish (note product will be a moister consistency)
Eggs	In baking
	• 1/2 mashed banana
	• 1/4 cup puree apple, pears or prunes
	• 1/4 cup pumpkin puree
	1/4 cup plain yogurt or sour cream
	1/4 cup pureed tofu + 1 tablespoon flour
	• 1/4 cup oil
	Commercial egg replacer
	 2 tablespoons water + 1 tablespoon oil + 2 teaspoons baking powder
	Add one extra teaspoon of baking powder for each missing egg
	Use gelatin as a binder
	1 teaspoon glycerin (it will make baked goods light and fluffy)
	1 tablespoon apple cider or white distilled vinegar + 1 teaspoon baking soda
	1 teaspoon yeast dissolved in 1 cup of warm water
	Beat mixture one-minute extra for each egg missing
	On your menu eggs are a protein so you would need to find other items from the meats and
	alternatives food group to supplement such as chicken, beef, fish, tofu, pork, nuts and seeds (if
	you provide them at your setting)
Frozen	Canned products (choose low salt if available)
vegetables	Seasonal fresh products
Canned	Prepare white sauce-based or pesto based dishes instead and add extra fresh or
tomatoes	canned vegetables, or legumes/lentils if possible
and passata	Canned low salt tomato soups, use water to thin if consistency is too thick
	 Tomato paste or sauce (use 1/2 the amount of required passata, may provide a
	sweeter taste)
UHT and milk	Dairy comes from a range of sources other than milk. Other examples include cheese and
restrictions	yoghurt. In cooking you can substitute 1 cup of cow's milk for:
	1 cup of soy milk
	1 cup of fruit puree (for baked goods such as muffins)
	1 cup of water or homemade stock for savoury recipes

