

FOOD ALLERGIES POLICY

Context:

Department for Education requires schools to promote and construct learning environments that are safe and supportive. Students and staff may have anaphylactic (severe allergic) conditions, that include allergies to nuts or other food substances. This means that exposure at school may constitute a risk to their health and wellbeing.

It is not possible to guarantee that the environment will be completely free of potential hazards. However, compliance to reasonable guidelines will minimise the potential risks.

Initially this policy is written with 'Nut Awareness' in mind and will be updated to include other potential medical hazards involving allergies.

Purpose:

- To raise the awareness of anaphylactic conditions for all members of the school community.
- To provide a safe school environment for all members of the school community.

Management:

Parents:

- are requested NOT to send food to school that contain nuts, especially peanuts. This includes products such as peanut paste, 'Nutella', most nuts, peanut cooking oil and other foods that may contain nuts.
- Will be informed of this policy at the commencement of each new school year and at enrolment.

Students:

- are encouraged to wash hands after eating.
- are encouraged not to share or give away food
- who bring food containing nuts, or nut products, are required to eat that food away from other students and to wash their hands before going to play.

Staff:

- will be made aware of students who have anaphylactic responses, including nut allergy.
- will supervise students during lunch eating time and will be vigilant in regard to this policy.
- staff who supervise students with nut allergies are requested not to eat food containing nuts in the presence of students.
- will participate in training from St. John or Red Cross biennially to understand procedures related to Anaphylaxis (severe allergic reactions) as the need arises.
- Will work with parents to develop health care plans based on medical information from the student's doctor.

School Canteen:

- is required to comply with this policy.

Promotion:

- The policy will be promoted by:
- Information via the school newsletter.
- New families to the school community being informed via information in their enrolment package.
- Governing Council being informed and giving approval and support to this policy.
- Staff being informed and provided with training opportunities.
- Students being informed via teachers, signs and through the newsletter.