

## ALLERGIES POLICY (including 'Nut Awareness')

Department for Education requires schools to promote and construct learning environments that are safe. Students and staff may have anaphylactic (severe allergic) conditions. 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. This policy applies to all allergies, including but not restricted to nuts.

One of the most common allergies is to nuts or nut products. The school acknowledges that due to current food processing practices, it is impractical to eliminate nuts and nut products entirely from an environment where there is food. The emphasis is therefore on raising awareness and adopting the reasonable procedures termed as 'Nut Awareness'.

### 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

### ACTION

#### Parents:

- are requested not to send food to school that contain nuts, especially peanuts. This includes products such as peanut paste, 'Nutella', 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
- will be notified if there are additional allergens the community need to be mindful of

#### Students:

- are encouraged to wash hands after eating
- who bring food containing nuts, or nut products, will be required to eat that food away from other students and to wash their hands before going to play
- do not share or swap food, unless under supervision (for example special events, as pre-arranged and agreed with the family)

#### 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
- when planning camps and excursions take into account food supply services, including discussing the full menu with families (including product details)

**Canteen and other food providers:**

- are required to comply with this policy
- follow standard precautions in food preparation to avoid cross contamination. People preparing food (including volunteers, teachers, canteen helpers) need advice on strategies to ensure that food is not cross contaminated

**Communication:**

- 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

Updated & Endorsed by Governing Council	2023
Review date	2025