

St Joseph's School Tranmere

Allergies and Nut Free Policy

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1 Rationale

St Joseph's School Tranmere aims to provide and promote a safe and supportive learning environment.

Students, parents, carers and staff may have anaphylactic (severe allergic) conditions, that include nut allergies. This means that exposure at school may constitute a risk to their health and wellbeing.

2 Aims

- Provide a safe school environment by being a nut free school
- Raise awareness of severe allergies with all members of the school community
- Show care and concern for others within the wider community who may have anaphylactic (severe allergic) conditions
- Provide support for students with severe allergies and their families
- Educate and support students to enable them to manage their own allergies at school and in the wider community.

3 Role of the Leadership Team

- Inform all new parents/carers of the St Joseph's School Tranmere's Allergies and Nut Free Policy during the enrolment process and to make it accessible on the school's website
- To regularly inform the school community via newsletters and other correspondence about the Allergies and Nut Free Policy
- Will ensure all staff participate in training opportunities to understand how to deal with Anaphylaxis (severe allergic reactions)
- Remind staff about nut free food that is brought into the staffroom and during consumption in classrooms and at school events
- Liaise and support with parent volunteers to comply with Allergy and Nut Free policy when working in the school kitchen, school fetes or school events where food is available
- Ensure staff are made fully aware of students or other staff who have anaphylactic responses, including nut allergy
- Ensure appropriate signage is placed in prominent areas e.g. Front Office, Classroom,
 Parish Hall acknowledging that the school is "Nut Free"
- Encourage staff to promptly communicate with parents/caregivers if food containing nuts or nut products, or those that may put students at risk is sent or brought to school.

4 Role of Staff

- Inform and support students and staff with severe allergic reactions
- Inform and support students and their families about this policy
- Supervise students during lunch eating time and to be vigilant in regard to this policy
- Students who bring food to school that contains nuts or nut products or foods that put other students at risk will be asked to take that food item to the office for disposal. Administrative staff will contact the student's parent/carer to explain our policy and arrange an alternative lunch. If this is not possible, the student will be provided with a snack.
- Encourage students not to share food
- Ensure information about this policy is included in notes that go home about shared food opportunities e.g. class parties and excursions
- Participate in training to understand procedures related to anaphylaxis as the need arises
- Encourage all students to wash hands after eating
- If on an excursion the teacher we take a first aid kit as well as any mediation that a student may require, i.e.: Epi pen.

5 Role of Parents / Carers

- Be aware of the St Joseph's School Tranmere's Allergies and Nut Free Policy
- To check ingredients in any food they send to school with their child/ren
- To not send food to school, that contains nuts or nut products.

The following foods contain nuts and cannot be brought to school:

- Peanut butter and nut pastes
- Crushed nuts in sauces
- Marzipan a paste of ground almonds and sugar
- · Health food confectionery bars with nuts
- Biscuits containing nuts
- · Confectionery containing nuts, e.g. fruit and nut chocolate
- · Nutella
- · Desserts containing nuts
- · Mixed nuts
- · Asian foods containing nuts
- Muesli and fruited breakfast cereals. Ingredients need to be checked on all breakfast cereals.

6 Evaluation

This information will be distributed regularly throughout the year through school newsletters, class newsletters, on the school website and in the school enrolment pack.

Understand that students who accidently bring food that contains nuts or nut products will be asked to bring that food item to the office for disposal. Administrative staff will contact the student's parent/carer to arrange an alternative lunch. If this is not possible, the student will be provided with a snack.

This school acknowledges that due to food processing practices it is impractical to totally eliminate nuts or nut products entirely from a learning environment where there is food. Many food-packaging labels include the phrase 'may contain traces of nuts', therefore as a school community we will endeavour to eliminate nuts in our school to the best of our ability and continue to work to educate the school community on being nut free.

We acknowledge that nuts are the highest risk food group so therefore request that nut products are not brought to school.

Revision Record

Document Title	St Joseph's School Tranmere Allergies and Nut Fee Policy
Document Type	Policy
Document Date	June 2018
Process Owner	Principal, St Joseph's School Tranmere
Contact	Adrian Grbin
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Approval Authority	School Board, St Joseph's School Tranmere
Review Date	2020
Revision History	