

Flagstaff Hill R-7 School

Food Allergy Policy

Statement of Policy:

Flagstaff Hill R-7 School is an **Allergy Aware School** where the health and safety of our students is paramount. Enrolled within the school are a number of students with life threatening food allergies. The basis of our approach is risk minimalisation and education.

Overview:

This policy is concerned with a whole school approach to the health care and management of those members of the school community suffering from specific allergies. Whilst nut allergy is the most common food allergy, eight foods (peanut, tree nut, milk, egg, soy, wheat, fish and shellfish) account for the vast majority of total food allergies. The school acknowledges that it is impractical to eliminate all foods which cause allergies from an environment where food is commonplace. The emphasis is therefore on minimising risk of exposure, raising awareness and encouraging self responsibility.

Purpose:

- **To raise the awareness of anaphylactic conditions for all members of the school community**
- **To provide a safe learning environment for all members of the Flagstaff Hill R-7 school community**
- **To continually review awareness of allergies in our school**

Management:

Parents:

- Will be informed of this policy at the commencement of each new school year and at enrolment. The policy will go out in the student packs sent out at the beginning of every school year

- Are requested to follow the classroom guidelines when sending in foods which may cause potential allergies
- Will provide a medical plan and medication (eg epipen) if their child has been diagnosed with an allergy. These are to be kept up to date by the parent. Parents will also teach and encourage the child to self manage

Students:

- Will receive age appropriate education about food safety and the seriousness and potential life threatening nature of allergies in the classroom environment
- Are encouraged to wash hands after eating
- Who bring in food that relates to a child with an allergy are encouraged to inform the classroom or duty teacher, and will eat that food away from other students and wash their hands after eating
- Are not permitted to share or swap food

Staff:

- Will be made aware of students who have anaphylactic responses
- Will supervise students during lunch eating time and be vigilant in regards to this policy
- Will participate in training biennially to understand procedures related to Anaphylaxis as the need arises, including identification of the signs and symptoms of an allergic reaction and use of appropriate medication eg epipen
- Will educate parents during Acquaintance night of any allergies in the classroom
- Will promote information to students and parents, through signs, blogs, website etc
- Will ensure all camps, excursions and incursions provide 'safe' food and that there are effective controls in place to minimise the risk of exposure.