

NUT AND ALLERGENS POLICY

CONTEXT:

Department for Education (DfE) schools are required to provide learning environments that are safe and supportive of all students. This includes providing for the needs of students and staff who may have allergies and anaphylactic (severe allergic) conditions – including nut/dairy allergies. For these individual's exposure to allergens at school may constitute a risk to their health and wellbeing.

Vale Park Primary School acknowledges it is impossible to guarantee the school environment will be completely free of all allergens and potential hazards. Blanket bans are not recommended; however, a focus will be on appropriate risk minimisation strategies and compliance within reasonable guidelines.

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 high-risk food and drinks to school that contain nuts, especially peanuts. This includes products such as peanut paste, "Nutella", peanut cooking oil and other foods that may contain nuts: eg: chocolate bars, muesli and nut bars.
- Will be informed of this policy at enrolment. Additional information will be provided at the beginning of each school year, especially where students at risk are identified within the class.
- If a child has an allergic medical condition diagnosed by a health professional the school must be supplied with their prescribed medication in the original pharmacy labelled container, along with the appropriate medication authority and health action plan. - All medication must be handed to front office staff by an adult.
- Are not to send food to school with the intention to distribute to others eg: birthday treats

Students:

- Are encouraged to wash hands before and after eating.
- If students bring food containing traces of allergens, including nuts, they will be required to eat food away from the at-risk students. Parents will be contacted if alternative food is required.
- Will be encouraged to eat their own food and not share with others.

Staff:

- Will be made aware of students who have anaphylactic responses, including nut allergens, by the front office staff and a record kept in their classroom and TRT folders.
- Will supervise students during eating times and, when necessary, isolate to minimise risks.
- Will participate in training from approved providers to follow best practice procedures related to Anaphylaxis (severe allergic reactions).
- Will follow Health Support Plans for students with allergies and anaphylaxis.

School Canteen, SAKG, Staff Events and Catered Events

- Are required to comply with this policy.
- Will not use foods which list nuts as an ingredient, including morning teas.

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EpiPens

- Medication for all students that have anaphylaxis and have an EpiPen prescribed are kept in the Front Office in a cupboard that is readily accessible by all staff members.
- Expiry dates will be regularly monitored by front office staff

Promotion:

The policy will be promoted by:

- Information via the school website
- New families to the school community via information in their enrolment packs along with the community handbook.
- Governing Council being informed and giving approval and support to this policy.
- Staff will be informed through the induction and staff handbook.

This policy is to be read in conjunction with reference to Department of Education - [Anaphylaxis and allergies procedure](#) policy.

Review:

To be reviewed annually. The school acknowledges that due to current food processing practices, it is impractical to eliminate food allergens from an environment where there is food. The emphasis is therefore on raising awareness and adopting reasonable procedures re nut and allergen awareness.

Policy reviewed: 14th May 2026

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