



NUT AND ALLERGENS AWARENESS POLICY

Preamble

The Tenison Woods College position is not to guarantee a completely nut and allergen free environment, rather to minimise the risk of exposure, encourage self-responsibility and plan for effective response to possible emergencies.

Rationale

Tenison Woods College recognises that a number of students and staff suffer from potentially life threatening allergies to certain foods or toxins. The College seeks the support of students, staff and parents in maintaining a minimised risk environment whilst at the same time ensuring we provide an effective response to potential anaphylactic situations.

Current medical advice from Immunologists suggests that, in nut-free environments, allergic children and families run a real risk of letting their guard down and thinking they are in a totally safe environment.

The College is aware of the stresses imposed on students, parents, care-givers and staff when having a student who suffers allergic reactions in their care. Therefore, the provision of procedures and systems to effectively manage such stress is also the aim of this policy.

Responsibilities

Parents

- Will provide the College with an anaphylaxis care plan from their doctor if their child has a serious allergy to any trigger including nuts, other foods or insect toxins;
- Will keep medications up to date;
- Are strongly encouraged not to send any food to school that contains nuts of any type or foods with peanut or nut derivatives or ingredients (eg peanut butter, nutella); and
- Are aware of students within their child's class with nut or food allergies.

Students

- Will be made aware of the dangers of bringing food to school that contains nuts of any type or foods with peanut or nut derivatives or ingredients (eg peanut butter, nutella);
- Will be supported to take increasing responsibility for monitoring their exposure to known allergens;
- Who inadvertently bring food containing traces of nuts or nut products are required to eat that food away from any allergic students; and
- Are strongly encouraged not to share food.

Staff

- Will be made aware of all students who have anaphylactic reactions, and their triggers including nut allergies;
- Will participate in approved First Aid Training every three years to understand the procedures related to the response to anaphylactic reactions;
- Will notify parents and caregivers if there are students within their class with nut or food allergies;
- Will notify the food provider of any students that have food or nut allergies when food is provided on camps, excursions and/or incursions; and
- Will discuss the Nut and Allergens Policy with their students at the beginning of each year.

Leadership

- Will regularly remind parents of the Nut and Allergens policy via the College newsletter;
- Will review the Nut and Allergens Policy on a regular basis (every 2 years); and
- Will ensure current medical information is available to staff.

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