

# CRAIGAVON SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL



## FOOD ALLERGY POLICY

DRAFT October 2017

## **Rationale**

Craigavon Senior High School recognises that although most food intolerances produce symptoms that are uncomfortable, some people can suffer a severe food allergy with more serious consequences and in some instances these may even be life threatening. Several pupils in the school have severe or moderate allergies to food and amongst the most common is nut allergy. Craigavon Senior High School recognises that it has a duty of care to all its pupils. The school is therefore striving to be a nut free environment and aims to ensure that none of the foods provided, bought by or produced in the school contain nuts.

The school is committed to pupil safety and therefore has created this policy to reduce the risk of children having allergy related events while in its care.

## **Aims**

- To reduce the likelihood of a pupil with a known food allergy displaying a severe reaction to a specific food while in school.
- To foster an understanding of and sense of responsibility for the specific needs of the individual members of the school community.
- To create an awareness of the action to take should someone with a severe food allergy display its symptoms.

Parents are required to inform the school of any known food allergies that their child has.

Medical information is requested on the enrolment form and is compiled by the school office staff upon admission.

Parents should update this information if an allergy is diagnosed at any stage in their child's education, or if there is updated medical advice.

Parents must advise the school of the action that should be taken if their child develops the symptoms of an allergic reaction while in school.

All members of staff are given the names of children who have specific food allergies through electronic mail at the beginning of each school year. Updated information is shared with staff as required.

The school will provide training to enable staff to recognise the symptoms of an allergic reaction and to respond appropriately.

All pupils diagnosed with a moderate or severe allergy, which requires the administration of medication for treatment, will have an individualised Care Plan for Anaphylaxis drawn up by the Community Health Care Team and agreed by the parents and school Principal (or a member of staff directed by the Principal e.g. Vice-Principal or the teacher with responsibility for Health and Safety). Care Plans are reviewed annually.

Individual medication prescribed for one treatment of an allergic reaction is stored in the School Office. This includes an adrenaline auto-injector pen (EpiPen or Jext) and or antihistamine medication. It is the responsibility of the parent to ensure this medication is supplied to the school and is in date.

All pupils who are prescribed an adrenaline auto-injector pen (EpiPen or Jext) must also carry an adrenaline auto-injector pen with them at all times during the school day.

A number of staff have been trained in the use of the EpiPen and Jext should a child with a known food allergy go into anaphylaxis.

All parents are advised to ensure that their child does not bring nuts or foods containing nuts into school.

Failure to adhere to this guidance may result in disciplinary action.

### **Food provision in school**

The school canteen does not use nuts or nut oils in the preparation of food.

The Home Economics Department does not provide nuts or nut oils as ingredients for practical work. During GCSE Practical Controlled Assessment pupils will not be permitted to plan meals containing nuts or nut oils.

When alerted to pupils with other food allergies/intolerances careful consideration will be given to the viability of the foods in question.

The school does not sell foods that specifically list nut or peanut products on the ingredients list of a food label.

In addition, the Home Economics Department and canteen aim to accommodate pupils with allergies/intolerances other than those concerning nuts.

In the case of a pupil with multiple or unusual allergies, the school may require the parent to provide lunches and snacks to ensure the pupil's safety.

The school will attempt to avoid serving food with nuts, but cannot guarantee that products with nuts will never be present. Likewise, the school cannot monitor products sold at events

attended by pupils off campus or served on trips. Therefore, pupils with severe food allergies must carefully monitor their food in these situations.

**Craigavon Senior High School cannot guarantee that there will be nothing in the school that might trigger an allergic reaction or that a pupil will never experience an allergy related event while at school.**

See [www.anaphylaxis.org.uk](http://www.anaphylaxis.org.uk) for more information.

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