



# Peanut/Tree Nut Free School Policy

Food allergies are on the rise and can cause a severe, systemic, potentially fatal allergic reaction called anaphylaxis in allergic individuals. Eight of the most common food allergens are milk, soy, wheat, fish, shellfish, egg, peanut, and tree nut.

Peanut and tree nut allergies account for most fatal and near-fatal anaphylactic reactions. Allergic individuals can experience anaphylaxis if they touch, inhale or ingest even the slightest trace or residue of the allergen.

To help make school a fun and safe place for our increasing number of peanut- and tree nut-allergic students, we're becoming a peanut- and tree-nut-free school. In addition to cleaning hands and mouths before entering school, here's how you can help:

## Lunches

- Send lunches with items that contain no peanuts, tree nuts, peanut butter, or nut butter.

## Shared Items

- Read labels to ensure shared items, such as snacks and craft materials, contain no peanuts or tree nuts, no traces of peanuts or tree nuts, and are not manufactured in a facility or on equipment that processes peanuts or tree nuts.
- Provide shared items in their original, unopened packages.
- All shared items requiring advance preparation, such as cutting, will be prepared in the school by a school staff member to avoid cross contamination from in-home utensils and surfaces.

## Birthdays

- Consider sending non-food birthday treats, such as a new or used book, game or activity to be shared in class and either donated to the classroom or returned home.
- Food items will only be given once a child has had permission from
- parent and it must be presented in a container which shows all
- ingredients.

*Policy Review date: September 2020*

