

Clewer Green CE Aided First School

Inspiring Children

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Vision: Every child has been blessed by God with unique potential. Our vision for Clewer Green is to inspire and nurture children in a safe, happy and caring Christian community, where everyone is valued and enjoys learning.

NUT ALLERGY AWARENESS POLICY

Introduction

This policy should be read in conjunction with the school's 'Medicines/Medication in School Policy' and Allergens Statement.

Anaphylaxis is a severe allergic reaction at the extreme end of the allergic spectrum, affecting the entire body, and can occur within minutes of exposure. The main causes are attributed to nuts, seeds and seafood. This policy focuses on the management of nut allergies. The Anaphylaxis Campaign advises that there is a strong case to be argued that children with food allergies will develop a better awareness and understanding of how to manage their allergies if they grow up in an environment where allergens may be present but, as at Clewer Green, are restricted and monitored, as much as is reasonably possible.

Purpose

- To provide a safe learning environment for all members of Clewer Green CE Aided First School.
- To raise the awareness of all members of our community regarding severe allergies.

Management

Parents will inform the school if their child has a reaction to nuts (or any other foods) and requires an EpiPen, as soon as they start at Clewer Green. Parents will keep the school informed and immediately let us know of any changes to their child's medical requirements.

The Nut Allergy Awareness policy will be managed by:

- Parents and carers being requested **NOT** to send food to school that contains nuts. This includes peanut paste, Nutella, all nuts and cooking oil containing peanut oil, as well as foods containing nuts.
- Staff supervising eating at lunch time. Should it be noticed that a child has brought food containing nuts, staff will handle the situation sensibly and sensitively to prevent those children known to have nut allergies coming into contact with the food. Staff will ensure that any child who has touched nut products washes his/her hands thoroughly.
- Children being encouraged **NOT** to share food.
- Children being encouraged to wash hands before **and** after eating.

- Staff participating in training from school health advisors in understanding and dealing with anaphylaxis (severe allergic reactions) as the need arises.
- The School catering staff complying with the Nut Allergy Awareness Policy. Whilst recognising that it is very difficult to be certain that everything that is sent to school by catering suppliers is nut-free, as some of the most unusual items contain nut traces, the catering staff will make every effort to serve food that is nut-free.

The staff will be 'nut aware' in the following ways:

- Ensuring that school cookery sessions use ingredients that do not contain nuts.
- Staff will not bring any food items into school for their own consumption that contains nuts.
- Epipens, for those children who have anaphylaxis, will be taken on all off site activities.
- All staff will be aware of those children who have an EpiPen, and will keep themselves regularly informed by monitoring any changes made to the Medical Board in the Staffroom.

The policy will be promoted by:

- Parents and carers being informed via the newsletter
- The policy will be on the school website
- New families to the school community being informed via the Induction Package
- Staff being informed and provided with training opportunities
- Liaison with parents so that an alternative 'treat' is available for children with nut allergies or other dietary requirements for in school events, be it provided by the parents or by school. Whilst the school will endeavour to ensure that any sweets provided by parents for children's birthdays do not contain nuts, we are unable to guarantee this therefore it is the responsibility of the parents to monitor their child's consumption of sweets given out as gifts.
- This school acknowledges that due to food processing practices it is impractical to eliminate nuts or nut products entirely from an environment where there is food; thus Clewer Green is a Nut 'Aware' School.

Created: October 2018
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Kate Kelliher, Chair of Governors