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Europa School UK Food Allergy Policy

Version and Date		Action/Notes
V1	25.01.2021	Approved by FGB
Review Date		31.08.2025

Europa School UK recognises that although most food intolerances or mild allergies produce symptoms that are uncomfortable, some pupils can suffer a severe food allergy with more serious consequences and in some instances, these may even be life threatening.

Our school, in discharging its duty of care for all pupils, is an “allergy and nut aware” environment. The school aims to ensure that none of the foods eaten onsite contain nuts, and that exposure to other allergy triggers is minimised. 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 prepare pupils with allergies to manage their allergy as they grow older
- To create an awareness of the action to take should someone with a severe food allergy display its symptoms

Information about allergies and medical condition

When a pupil joins the School, parents are required to inform the school of any known food allergies. A medical questionnaire is sent every year for an update to the students with a medical alert. Parents should update this information if an allergy is diagnosed at any stage in their child’s education.

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.

The information is recorded in School Base as a central record, by the medical administrator.

High Alert/ EpiPen display sheets with photos of the students are printed and displayed in various locations by the medical administrator:

Main Reception Medical Rooms, staffroom, working-room, medical cabinet of the pupil's classroom, dining room.

Adrenaline autoinjectors (EpiPen) and medication are recorded on School Base by the medical administrator, including expiration date, location on site and any info given about usage, and parent consent status to administer the medicine. They are labelled up with the pupil's name and class and distributed with Allergy Action Plans to the relevant classrooms.

Backup adrenaline autoinjectors provided by the school are kept in the medical cabinet in the class next to the dining room (1EE) for Primary, along with High Alert/ EpiPen display sheets and the Allergy Action Plans. They can only be administered to those children on the list. The Backup adrenaline autoinjectors are clearly labeled and stored with the list of children to ensure correct dosage Adrenaline autoinjectors (EpiPen) is administered to the correct child.

Backup adrenaline autoinjectors for secondary pupils are kept at Reception alongside High Alert/ EpiPen display sheets and the Individual Allergy Action Plans

The canteen coordinator and the medical administrator ensure that all staff supervising children at the canteen, and staff with children concerned in their class, are adrenaline autoinjectors' use trained, and well aware of signs and symptoms of allergic reactions. This training is updated annually in September.

Reducing contact with allergy triggers

- All parents are advised to ensure that their child does not bring nuts or foods containing nuts into school
- All parents are advised that the School is allergy and nut aware
- The catering manager ensures that no nuts or nut oils are used in the preparation of food, as well as some other identified allergy triggers. If a child is allergic to one of these allergens not used in the kitchen, the school will inform the parents. Therefore, parents can decide knowingly if they prefer their child to take school-meals or pack-lunches.
- Allergens used for the preparation of the meals are indicated in the menus displayed on our website. The catering manager is responsible for this.
- The menu of the day with the allergens is clearly displayed in the dining room by the catering manager.
- Children are not permitted to share food (hot meal, pack lunch, snack) and drink
- Teachers ensure that children wash their hands before and after the lunch break.
- Tables are cleaned up when children have finished their meal and before new children are seated by the canteen supervising staff.
- Class teachers will discuss allergy information with all children in the class, and the need to be vigilant.
- Any treats or cake provided by parents or by the school (birthday, fundraising, etc.) should be nut free. In the class, teachers could require from the parents of children with allergy alternative treats to use, in case of any doubt.

Caveats

The school makes an effort to be a nut-free zone, reminding this to parents and students regularly, we cannot guarantee that everything will be free of nuts or another allergen.

At the same time, Europa School UK cannot guarantee that a pupil will never

experience an allergy-related event while at school. For this reason, the staff properly informed, trained, and the children's adrenaline autoinjectors are available and ready to be used.

In any case, we do our very best to ensure that the whole school community, parents, staff, students, ensure a safe environment for all our pupils, including children with mild or severe allergies.