

St. John's Lutheran School: Food Allergy Awareness Policy

Allergy Policy

Introduction

St. John's Lutheran School is sensitive to the fact that we have students with various food allergies. We are working to maintain an allergy aware environment at St. John's that will minimize the risk of students during school hours. St. John's Lutheran School is an allergy aware school building.

Purpose Statement

St. John's Lutheran School recognizes that student food allergies may be severe and potentially life-threatening. The staff, in conjunction with the Board of Christian Education, has adopted a food allergy awareness policy and procedures document to minimize the risk of exposure to allergens that create a life-threatening situation. This document will also educate members of the school community on management of student allergies and to plan for the needs of students with life-threatening allergies. (This document will be handed out at orientation as well as posted to the school website)

St. John's Lutheran School cannot guarantee that a student will never experience an allergy-related event and cannot be held liable should a reaction occur. However, the school is committed to student safety, and therefore has created this policy to reduce the risk that children will have a life-threatening allergy-related event.

If your child(ren) has allergies, we ask that you communicate this by filling out the Allergy Action Plan Form provided in FACTS or on our website at <https://www.sjsmarysville.org/school-forms/> and click on Allergy Action Plan under Medical. All staff and faculty at St. John's have been trained in First Aid and CPR and are capable of recognizing the signs of an allergic reaction. By filling out the action plan, you provide us with the steps you prefer us to take if your child(ren) has an allergic reaction while at school.

Goals and Objectives

- Strive to provide age-appropriate procedures to assist children and the school community in an effort to provide a healthy and safe school environment.
- Reduce the likelihood of life-threatening allergic reactions of students with known food allergies while at school.

- Even though the school cannot guarantee an allergen-free environment, the school will take responsible steps to ensure a safe environment for children with life-threatening allergies.
- Ensure the school community is aware of this food allergy policy and the potential for a student having a life-threatening allergy related event.

Children with food allergies who purchase school meals will be given a replacement option if they are allergic to a food on the menu. Food allergy is an abnormal reaction to a food triggered by the immune system. This should not be confused with food intolerance. An intolerance, such as lactose intolerance, is triggered by the digestive system and is usually not life-threatening. Food allergies can cause mild to severe reactions that can be fatal if not treated.

The most common food allergies are:

- Milk
- Soy
- Peanuts
- Eggs
- Wheat
- Tree Nuts
- Fish
- Shellfish

If you feel that your child has a food allergy but has not yet been diagnosed, please contact your pediatrician to have your child tested.