

Newton Leys Primary School & Nursery

Food Allergy and Intolerance Policy

Newton Leys Primary School and Nursery is committed to safety and has created this policy in order to reduce the risk of children or staff having allergy related incidents whilst in school.

A number of pupils and staff in the school have severe or moderate allergies to food, amongst which the most common is a nut allergy. Newton Leys Primary School and Nursery recognises that it has to provide a safe environment and aims to ensure that foods provided, brought in, or produced in the school do not contain nuts, therefore we ask that no nuts or nut products are included in packed lunches from home.

The school kitchen does not use nuts, nut oils or nut containing products in the preparation of food; but cannot guarantee that the source of manufacture is completely nut-free. The kitchen is made fully aware of medically certified food allergies.

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.

All members of staff are given the names of children who have specific food allergies at the beginning of each school year. This list is updated as required. Photographs of pupils with severe food allergies are displayed in the kitchen, and children with such allergies are provided with individual place mats, to denote their meal requirements. All school staff are vigilant to ensure that children are not served food likely to cause them an allergic reaction.

The same process is adhered to for those who are unable to eat certain foods for religious reasons.

Parental Support

All Parents are asked to support us in keeping the children safe, by carrying out the below actions:

- Parents are required to inform the school of any known food allergies that their child has. This information should be recorded on the Admission Form when a child joins the school, or information provided in writing to the School Office if the allergy arises later in the child's school career. In all cases, these notifications **must** be supported by a doctor's note.
- Please note that we are unable to formally record a food allergy unless medical certification is provided.
- Parents must update the School immediately if any allergy/intolerance is diagnosed at any stage of their child's education.
- Likewise, if an allergy/intolerance is no longer an issue, please let the School Office know straightaway so we can amend your child's records.

- Parents must advise the school of the symptoms the child will develop in the case of an allergic reaction whilst in School and the action required for treatment.
- In some cases, an individual health care plan may be considered appropriate. If this is the case, an appointment will be made for you to meet with the School's First Aider.
- Please ensure that suitable menu choices are chosen for your child from our lunch menu. If you are ever unsure of the ingredients in our school meals our Catering Manager can provide this information so please ask at the School Office.
- If our Kitchen Staff have been advised of a medically certified allergy, they will not knowingly serve any food containing this ingredient to your child, regardless of the online selection that you have made for your child. It may not always be possible to source an alternative menu option for your child at short notice, at which time we will contact you and request that you provide a packed lunch.
- Periodically our lunch menus need to be changed for special events, but the School Office will notify you in enough time to ensure correct alternatives can be found if necessary.
- Parents who have any questions about this policy, and how it might apply to their child, are invited to contact the School Office.
- Further information about allergies can be found at [food.gov.uk/allergy](https://www.food.gov.uk/allergy) or [nhs.uk/conditions/allergies](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/allergies)