



PEANUT POLICY

2018-2019

WEDDINGTON CHRISTIAN ACADEMY'S PEANUT POLICY PROVIDES GENERAL PARAMETERS THAT MAY ASSIST IN DEALING WITH SIGNIFICANT FOOD ALLERGIES. THIS POLICY HELPS FACILITATE THE LEAST RESTRICTIVE SETTING POSSIBLE WHILE WORKING TO PROVIDE A SAFE AND ENCOURAGING SITUATION FOR EVERY STUDENT.

CLASSROOMS AND ENVIRONMENT

WCA is unable to guarantee a peanut and/or nut-free environment in any context. Due to sharing space with other classes and ministries of Weddington United Methodist Church and similar outreach groups, the school is unable to fully control the physical environment in which its students operate.

At its discretion, WCA may designate certain classrooms as peanut and/or nut-free settings. In that event, a letter or email will go home (typically, but not exclusively, at the beginning of the school year) explaining what that means for all families in that classroom. This implies teachers will make earnest efforts to facilitate such as a setting, but it does not ensure this will be accomplished with 100% accuracy or consistency. It does not guarantee that such products have not been brought into the school or classroom setting by other groups.

CLASSROOM TREATS

All students are allowed to bring in birthday treats for their class. While a list of suggested treats in a peanut or nut-free classroom may be provided by the teacher, there is no guarantee that any birthday treat is safe. Our policy is designed to not unduly place the responsibility of monitoring and providing allergy-safe food on other classroom families. The parent of the allergic student is welcome to work with the teacher identify the birthday treats and decide if their child may consume. Please note, however, that while teachers know the children's birthdays, they may not always have specific treat information in advance. Therefore, it is essential for the parents of the allergic child to provide a safe supply of treats for their own child.

The teacher will inform the room mother and other parents involved with providing food at class parties of the known allergies in the class. In peanut and/or nut-free classrooms, teachers will suggest that NO nuts should be a part of those foods. However, since food is frequently prepared in homes where such substances are present, we CANNOT guarantee that any food is free of cross-contamination of peanuts/nuts (even if/when it was intended to be so). Therefore, parents of the allergic child must decide their comfort level with their child's eating of such foods and communicate this with the teacher in advance.

FAMILIES OF ANAPHYLACTIC CHILDREN

Families who have anaphylactic children must make the school aware of their child's condition via communications with the teacher, school administration as well as indicating it on the school's required emergency and registration forms. Parents may be asked to provide additional information from a physician, if needed, to help clarify the matter.

If epinephrine (Epi Pen or similar devices) may be required in the event of an allergic reaction, parents are required to supply a minimum of two (2) injectors to the school along with other medications such as Benadryl. A medication authorization, provided by the school, will be required to be on file and signed by a physician.

To ensure their child never be inadvertently left out, parents should provide a supply of acceptable, prepackaged snacks that are safe for their child to eat. These will be stored in the classroom, and their child may draw from this supply anytime treats which may be of concern are eaten class-wide. If/when in doubt, allergic children should assume a treat is NOT safe and should eat these previously-purchased and stored snacks. This places the responsibility, within reasonable bounds, on parents to ensure their own child's safety. Children who can self-advocate should be encouraged to always do so.

Parents should supply extra wipes and other materials, as needed, to the classroom teacher for cleaning of students' hands/and or desks if that is a part of the requested/necessary classroom procedures.

I have read and fully understand Weddington Christian Academy's peanut policy for the 2018-2019 school year.

PARENT

DATE

PARENT

DATE