



ARCHDIOCESE OF ATLANTA Food Allergy Guidelines & Parent Waiver

St. Mary's Academy

School Year: _____

Student Name: _____

Grade: _____

The parent's/guardian's signature on this document indicates the receipt of this policy/guidelines and the understanding of the school's efforts to provide and address food allergy issues and to reasonably provide a safe environment for the student. There is no promise or guarantee of success but rather a commitment to these reasonable measures.

St. Mary's Academy reaffirms its commitment to providing a safe and welcoming environment for all students. Students will not be excluded from school activities based solely on a food allergy provided that a safe and reasonable accommodation is available.

Please initial the line beside any of the listed measures to indicate your preference for having that measure implemented for your student.

1. _____ A yearly meeting will be held with the parents, student (age appropriate), representative of the school administration, school nurse, and the homeroom teacher to determine reasonable measures to address your student's circumstances from the list provided below. These measures will be implemented for the purpose of providing a prevention plan for the student throughout the school year.
2. The school will request that the family's physician complete, at the beginning of each new school year (or, upon a change in condition), a Food Allergy Action Plan with specific instructions regarding the student's food allergy and recommendations for emergency treatment.
3. _____ A letter from the principal will be sent at the beginning of the year to all parents in the applicable student's grade level as well as those students during the lunch period informing them of the existence of a severe food allergy. (Student will not be identified by name.) Within this letter, the principal will discourage parents and students from packing foods that contain the identified allergen.
4. _____ The student's classroom will be designated as a food allergy-free classroom. The school will make reasonable attempts to ensure that offending allergens are not present in the classroom. However, the school cannot guarantee that these allergens will not be present in the classroom or elsewhere. The removal of allergens will include food used in lesson plans, crafts, and holiday parties. Any child in the identified grade level who inadvertently brings to school a product for a snack that contradicts the food allergy notification sent by the principal must exchange it for a snack that is deemed to be safe. Parent contact by the teacher should occur as a follow-up.
5. _____ A table within the cafeteria will be designated as the food allergy-free zone table.

6. _____ The table in the cafeteria is an optional additional precaution and will be placed separately from the other tables and will be used exclusively by students with food allergens and designated friends. (See #8 below.)
7. _____ The allergen-free zone lunch table will be wiped down before each lunch period using sanitizer recommended by the CDC/FAAN, etc. for removal of food allergens on tabletops. Such cleaners may include 409, Lysol sanitizing wipes or Target brand cleaner with bleach. All three products have been found to remove peanut allergens from tabletops (Tamara, Conover-Walker, Pomes, Chapman & Wood, 2004).
8. _____ The student with a food allergy who chooses the option of sitting at the designated food allergen-free table in the cafeteria will have an opportunity to choose 2-3 friends with whom to sit during lunch. The students chosen to sit at the allergen-free table will have their lunches checked by the teacher on duty or the classroom teacher before lunch. A letter to those parents whose children may be selected to sit at the food allergen-free table in the cafeteria should be notified that lunches brought to school need to be allergen-free or the school will provide another option for the student. The food allergen, and not the affected child, must be identified in this advance-notification letter.
9. _____ Students are encouraged not to trade or share food or food utensils.
10. _____ Students who may bring a food allergy product to school at lunchtime will be asked to wash their hands before going outside to recess or returning to the classroom.
11. _____ School staff will receive training on allergen labeling requirements and will be given a How-To-Read Label sheet.
12. _____ School staff will receive training on recognizing symptoms of anaphylaxis from food allergies.
13. _____ The school staff will receive training in non-medical personal treatments for anaphylaxis from food allergies.
14. _____ Epi-pens (prescribed for the child and provided to the school with required documentation from the physician) will be placed in several key locations in the school in the event that staff needs to treat a child for an allergic reaction. An epi-pen will be part of the first aid kit that will be taken on all field trips for the affected grade level. School staff will receive training on how to effectively handle these situations.
15. _____ In the event that Epinephrine is administered, 911 will be called and the child will be transported by EMS to the hospital.
16. _____ As part of substitute training, substitute teachers will be informed of these policies and protocols. Classroom teachers will also include reminders of students that have a food allergy as part of their substitute plans.
17. _____ Other measures that may be reasonably available, appropriate, and agreed upon by the school, student's parents, and student's health care provider. The school reserves the right to decline all unreasonable requests, as determined by the school in its sole discretion.

I/we agree to work cooperatively with the school and its personnel to address my child's food allergy and to find reasonable measures to implement a safe environment. I/we further understand and acknowledge, however, that despite such efforts, neither the school nor the Archdiocese of Atlanta can absolutely guarantee my/our child will not come into contact with a food allergen and, that in the event such contact does occur, the school and the Archdiocese of Atlanta expressly deny any responsibility or liability for the same.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____

School Representative: _____

Date: _____