

ALLERGY AWARENESS ~ We are a Peanut and Nut Free School

We are a nut free school, meaning that we are a school in which we encourage everyone to be aware of allergies and take the appropriate precautions. We ask our families not to send nuts or peanut butter as we have students with severe allergies. In the case of other severe allergies, parents will be notified of the allergy and asked to respect the student's life-threatening issue, for example, sesame seeds.

If an allergen is introduced in a classroom, the appropriate precautions are taken to ensure the student's safety.

Students with epi-pens are required to have two (2) epi-pens. One remains with them at all times and the second is kept at the office. The office also maintains a generic epi-pen for emergency situations.

Please be aware that a substitute peanut butter product is being marketed to consumers as a safe alternative for children to bring to schools in place of peanut butter. **The Waterloo Region District School Board asks that parents refrain from including these kinds of products in your child's lunches or snacks.**

These products tend to look, taste, and smell very much like peanut butter. While the product is nut free, it mimics a known allergen that causes anaphylaxis in some children to the degree that it is indistinguishable from the allergen. It is a convincing substitute, opening up the possibility that it can be confused as peanut butter, or worse yet, peanut butter could be confused as this soy-based product.

The safety and health of our students is our first priority, which is why our school has procedures in place to minimize risk of anaphylaxis reactions in our students. We sincerely appreciate your cooperation in avoiding the use of these products to assist in our continued efforts to create a safe, caring and inclusive learning environment for all students.