

GUIDELINES FOR FOOD IN RELATION TO ALLERGIES AT SCHOOL

POLICY 5 GUIDELINE 19



Developing our Children's Minds
Guiding our Children's Hearts

To be read in conjunction with Guideline 18

These guidelines are based upon advice from Allergy New Zealand and the Ministry of Education, who recognise the responsibility of parents to teach their child with allergies to care for himself/herself and the role a school plays in supporting a health-care plan (if necessary) and developing appropriate management strategies. If parents have concerns about these guidelines or the way they are being applied, they should contact the Principal in the first instance.

1. St Benedict's School discourages the trading and sharing of food, food utensils and food containers.
2. Bottles, other drinks and lunch boxes provided for children should be clearly labelled with the name of the child for whom they are intended.
3. St Benedict's School will discuss with families of severely allergic children about accessing Ministry of Education High Health Needs funding if they require a supervisor for their child at lunch/snack times.
4. Children with severe food allergies should only eat lunches and snacks prepared at home.
5. If food is to be purchased from the school, parents should check the appropriateness of foods by contacting the school.
6. The use of food in crafts, cooking classes, science experiments and special events may be able to be adjusted depending on the allergies of particular children. Parents may contact the school to discuss this as necessary.
7. Hand washing will be encouraged for all children before and after eating and before entering the classroom. Hand washing practices have additional benefits including formulation of good hygiene habits and reduced rates of sickness.
8. If a child has a severe food allergy, the teacher may request that classmates do not bring that food type to school.