

Woodbury Boston Primary School

Special Dietary Needs Policy

Revised:	New
Endorsed by GB:	May 2016
Next review due:	May 2018

Special Dietary Needs Policy

Policy Statement

Like all schools, Woodbury Boston Primary School has students with a variety of special dietary needs, including Coeliac Disease, anaphylaxis, and allergic reactions (but not anaphylaxis) to a variety of common food allergens. For Coeliac, anaphylaxis and high level allergic reactions, the school takes a risk minimisation approach to meals it provides during camps, at canteen lunches and during Out & About, working with the parents of the particular students to ensure minimal exposure to known allergens.

While the school supports families being pro-active with their health and lifestyle choices, it is neither practical nor reasonable to expect the school to cater for the myriad of non-medically diagnosed dietary choices, including vegetarianism and food exclusion trials. Where practical and reasonable, meals provided during school camps will address the most common lifestyle dietary choices, however the volunteer-run canteen lunches and the lunch options on Out & About days may not always include suitable options. Parents are welcome to provide alternative meal or snack options in these circumstances, following discussion with school staff. See also *Healthy Eating* and *Anaphylaxis Response* policies.

Our Commitment

Woodbury Boston Primary School will:

- Endeavour to meet the dietary requirements, with assistance from parents, for those with a medical diagnosis and high level potential reactions.
- At camps or shared meals, serve students with anaphylaxis or high level reactions first to avoid the potential for cross-contamination.
- Advise relevant parents in advance of the proposed menus for camps and shared meals, allowing parents to make an informed choice as to whether a parent-provided alternative will be required or desired.
- Educate students about 'allergy awareness', including regular discussion about the importance of washing hands after eating, eating their own food, and not sharing food.
- Encourage students with specific needs to bring in alternative 'treats' to be stored at school, for when a birthday cake is shared in the classroom or other similar situations.
- Allocate storage space for the student-provided alternative 'treats'.
- Advise parents of this policy via the school newsletter and other avenues

Our Expectations

Parents/carers will:

- Work with school staff to make a plan for meals and snacks on camps, providing some meals as arranged.
- Follow school guidelines for packaging of alternative foods, for ease of storage and distribution.
- Provide 'treat' foods if desired, to be kept at school for birthdays and other celebrations.
- Discuss with their children that sometimes the child's specific needs may mean they might miss out or be excluded in certain food situations. Perhaps make arrangements with the child that an alternative treat will be provided later at home in those cases.
- Provide alternative drinks, made up and ready to serve, for 'Monday Milo', if anything other than the school-provided Milo in cow's milk is required or desired.
- Support the policy of the school.
- Educate their child about allergy awareness so that they can self-manage.

Evaluation

School staff will review the effectiveness of this policy as required to ensure continued relevance. The Governing Body will evaluate this policy every two years in consultation with the Principal as a representative of the staff.