

New Story Schools of Ohio 2024-2025 Food Allergy Policy

Policy Statement:

New Story Schools is committed to providing a safe and inclusive environment for all students, including those with food allergies. This policy is designed to address the needs of students with food allergies in accordance with the Ohio Revised Code Section 3313.719.

Scope:

This policy applies to all students, staff, and visitors on the premises of New Story Schools.

Definitions:

Food Allergies: Adverse reactions to food, including but not limited to, allergies to peanuts, tree nuts, milk, eggs, soy, wheat, fish, and shellfish.

Guidelines:

Identification of Students with Food Allergies:

Parents/guardians are responsible for notifying the school about their child's food allergies. This can be completed in the enrollment packet. This needs to be completed every school year.

The school will maintain a confidential record of students with food allergies, including specific allergens and emergency contact information.

Allergy Action Plan:

Parents/guardians of students with food allergies must provide an Allergy Action Plan signed by a healthcare professional outlining specific actions to be taken in case of an allergic reaction.

EpiPen Possession and Use:

Students with food allergies are allowed to possess and self-administer EpiPens if they have written permission from their parents/guardians and healthcare provider.

EpiPens must be labeled with the student's name and stored in a readily accessible location, such as the nurse's office or the student's classroom.

Staff Training:

School staff, including teachers, administrators, will receive training on recognizing and responding to allergic reactions.

Training will cover the proper use of epinephrine auto-injectors and other emergency procedures.

Allergy-Safe Environments:

Classrooms, lunchrooms, and other common areas will be designated as allergy-aware zones.

Signage indicating allergen restrictions and emergency procedures will be displayed in relevant areas.

Communication:

Parents/guardians will be informed of class parties or events involving food in advance, allowing them to provide alternative snacks for their child.

Teachers and staff will communicate with parents/guardians of students in the same class about potential allergens.

Emergency Response:

In the event of an allergic reaction, school staff will follow the procedures outlined in the student's Allergy Action Plan.

Emergency services will be contacted immediately, and parents/guardians will be notified promptly.

Accommodations:

Reasonable accommodations will be made to ensure students with food allergies can participate fully in school activities, including school trips and extracurricular events.

Review and Updates:

This policy will be reviewed annually to ensure its effectiveness. Updates may be made as needed to align with best practices and any changes in regulations. Feedback from stakeholders will be considered during the review process to enhance the effectiveness of the policy.