

Saint Michael School
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PEANUT AND TREE NUTS POLICY

SMS is a nut free school. Although schools cannot guarantee an allergy free environment, we can utilize strategies to greatly minimize the risks associated with peanut and tree nut allergies. These strategies focus on prevention, education, and emergency response. As we face a growing number of children dealing with food allergies and, specifically, potentially life-threatening peanut and tree nut allergies, Saint Michael School will continue to be a peanut and tree nut free school. We have many students in our school that have life threatening food allergies. As a school dedicated to some of the youngest members of our community, we understand that many of our students are not old enough to make sound and safe decisions when it comes to what should go into their mouths and are less able to manage their allergies independently. Many preschool-aged children are not yet aware of potential food allergies. While our faculty and staff do an excellent job of sanitizing playing surfaces, toys, tables, chairs, and monitoring snacks and lunches brought into the school, there are some children within our school who could have a serious life-threatening allergic reaction from contact with even a microscopic amount of the offending foods. **Therefore, we have decided to keep Saint Michael School a peanut and tree nut (Brazil nuts, macadamia, almonds, cashews, pistachios, walnuts, pecans, and hazelnuts) free school. Please do not send your child to school with Peanut butter, Almond butter, or Nutella products.**

It is our school policy not to distribute food or snacks. Children are not allowed to share snacks. Lunches are provided by a private company, *Just Like Home*. *Just Like Home's* lunches are completely nut free. Please contact them directly with any questions concerning their ingredients.

The health and safety of all students must take priority. The goal of this policy is to promote the wellness and safety of all students and limit any opportunity for any child to be exposed to foods that could harm him or her. We appreciate your cooperation with this policy. The sacrifice of not having peanut or tree nut products in the school is a small one to make compared to the consequence of a child with severe allergies could face. Check out Emily's Story: <https://robynobrien.com/emilys-story-life-lost-food-allergy-parents-wish-2/>

Sincerely,

Principle Gosselin
Saint Michael School Nurses