

## Food Allergy Policy

Greece Christian Preschool recognizes the potentially serious consequences of children with allergies. In response to the increasing rates of allergies among children, **Greece Christian Preschool is a nut/peanut free school**. Because allergic reactions can come on rapidly and be life-threatening, we need everyone's cooperation in preventing an incident. The following gives more detail as to how we can work together to keep the students healthy and safe.

### **For all classes**

- We will have peanut/nut—free snacks.
- Teachers will read and examine all food labels.
- A notice will be posted in the classrooms regarding the presence of students with food allergies. This will enable anyone who comes into the classroom as a substitute to be prepared for an allergic emergency.

### **If a child/children has a food allergy (peanut, tree nuts or other)**

- We will work together to make snack time safe and enjoyable for all.
- Check the labels of snacks before you bring them in. Check ingredients and look for warning or safety notices (usually near the ingredients) such as "Contains nuts" or "Wheat free" or "Processed in a facility that processes nuts."
- Be aware that many organic brands that are usually considered healthy options for children may be processed in smaller facilities that also process nuts.

### **If your child has allergies**

- Complete the allergy section on the Preschool Application Form.
- Let the teacher know immediately. Plans will be made to best accommodate the student.
- Copies of a Food Allergy Action Plan completed by your child's physician must be on file with the school director and nurse.
- An epi- pen should be kept at school for your child. Classroom teachers have

been instructed to recognize the signs and symptoms of an anaphylactic reaction, as well as how and when to administer an epi-pen. One copy of a Food Allergy Action Plan should be stored with each student's epi-pen.

- If you are not comfortable with the classroom arrangements, talk to the teacher.
- We encourage a Safe Food Box to be left at school filled with a supply of safe treats ( nonperishable) for your child.

Food allergies are a serious issue and we appreciate your cooperation in ensuring the safety of all the students. We encourage parents to share concerns or questions. For more information about snacks, see our **Snack Guidelines**.