



PLC Charter Schools

Corporate Office

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Arts Academy at Estrella Mountain

Nut-Aware Policy

As with the general population, Arts Academy at Estrella Mountain is seeing an increased number of children with severe nut allergies, including potentially life-threatening anaphylactic reactions. Complete avoidance of peanut butter and nut products is the only way to prevent these children from having an allergic reaction.

This reality has necessitated the elimination of peanut butter and nut products from the classrooms and lunchroom at Arts Academy at Estrella Mountain. We ask our families that no type of food containing peanut butter and/or nut products be sent to school. This applies to all food coming into the school building, including lunches, snacks, and special- occasion foods, as well as any school sponsored event.

While we strive to be nut free, we realize it is impossible to eliminate all foods, as some foods may contain trace amounts of nuts because they were processed in a facility that also processes nuts. This should be listed on the product wrapper. These foods must also be avoided.

We realize that this may cause some inconveniences, but we believe that the health of our children with these intense reactions must be a priority. In addition, we have a policy of not sharing food, and we request that this be reinforced with your children, especially those with food allergies. This will be reinforced in the lunchroom as well.

As we strive to provide a nut-free environment, please recognize that our facilities are used for many purposes (by the church community and outside groups), and we cannot guarantee our facilities are completely nut free. We do appreciate all efforts to make our facilities as safe as possible for all who use them.

This policy will take effect at the beginning of the school year.

If you have questions regarding our nut-aware policy, contact the Food Service Director **Jenny Michael** , at 480.298.5302 or Jmichael@plccharterschools.org