



Saint Francis St. Francis of Assisi School  
7075 Ashworth Road, West Des Moines, Iowa 50266  
Tel: 515-457-7167, Fax: 515-223-4768

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Jon Aldrich, Principal      Gretchen Watznauer, Asst. Principal

Dear Parent/Guardian of Student with Life Threatening Peanut Allergies:

St. Francis of Assisi School's lunch menu is peanut free. However, our cafeteria is not a peanut free environment. We do our best to provide a safe environment for students with peanut allergies.

The 2021-2022 Return to Learn plan includes protocols to keep our school environment in compliance with current local and federal guidelines. We will have four lunch shifts to accommodate social distancing and all students will eat with their homeroom class. Students with allergies in grades PK-2 will be assigned a seat at the end of the table. Students eating a school lunch will be seated next to and across from allergy students to ensure the food around them is peanut free. This creates a safe zone for the student to enjoy their lunch. We feel that this is the safest possible location for your student to eat, considering not only their developmental age, but the developmental ages of ALL students in the cafeteria at this time. While your student might understand the ramifications of exposure to peanuts and how to manage his/her allergy situation, other students at this age most likely do not.

Grades 3-8 will also be assigned a seat at their homeroom table, however it will not be required to be at the end of a table. We have found that students at these developmental ages are able to manage their environment in the cafeteria more effectively and independently. However, students in these grades also have the option to sit at an assigned seat at the end of the table.

All parents of students with allergies are asked to complete the safe table form. Families who have a form on file from previous years should submit a form if there are any changes. For students in grades K-2 who have completed the peanut desensitization program, you can sign the waiver to have your child sit at a seat they choose at their homeroom table.

Please contact us if you have further questions or concerns regarding this policy.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Riedl  
School Nutrition Director