

# ***Feeding West Chester Students with Allergies and Dietary Restrictions***

Our food service program at WCASD with Aramark want each family to feel confident when eating in our cafeterias. Our goal is to provide your students with nutritious, delicious, and SAFE meals 100% of the time. We will always be transparent and honest about the products or food items we use and encourage parents to reach out to us with any question about our food and our procedures. Parents and students can set up appointments to tour our kitchens so they can read the labels on the products we have in house. If we do not have the answers to your questions, you can be rest assured that we will get any information to you that you will need to ensure that your child dines safely with us.

## ***Where can I find the nutritional information for a food on the menu?***

- If you have a question about a food item, first check our new digital menu for an easy and quick way to get nutrition information you are looking for. All our menus are uploaded unto our digital menu program called *Nutrislice*. There is a daily or weekly view of the menu and all the foods served on our menu can be obtained with one click! <https://westchesterpa.nutrislice.com>

## ***Where can I find out whether certain food item contains a certain allergen?***

- If you have a concern about a specific product or allergen, Nutrislice can identify and highlight the top 9 common allergens in the food we use as well. Aramark has implemented new menu software to create an easy way for you to access our menu, nutritional information, and the common allergens in our recipes. The website is: <https://westchesterpa.nutrislice.com> and can also be found on the West Chester Area school district site.

## ***Can I put an alert on my child's account, so the cafeteria knows they have an allergy?***

- **YES.** Our food service staff is given a list from the school nurses of any students with allergies. An alert is placed on the student account and their allergy alert pops up when the student enters their PIN. ***When the cashier sees the alert, the cashiers are instructed to have the student see the nurse before purchasing this item.*** \*

**\*PLEASE NOTE: The staff does not have access to students' allergy information or medical information and ultimately cannot decide nor grant permission for concerning the consumption of a particular food or beverage item on behalf of a student.**

## ***Is the District "Peanut Free"?***

**YES...GRADES K-8 are considered PEANUT FREE.** No food containing peanuts/tree nuts will be brought into the kitchen or served in the cafeteria at ES and MS level.

In Grades 9-12, a limited number of ***Individually Wrapped*** food items that contain peanuts are sold in the cafeteria.

***What steps should I take if my student has an allergy or dietary concern and wants to eat in the cafeteria?***

- First, make sure the school nurse is aware of any dietary need that your student may have.
- Look at monthly menu and select foods your student wants to eat but you have questions about.
- Use Nutrislice monthly menu to identify if meal selections contain your student's allergen top 7 allergens listed on monthly menu.
- If additional nutrition info is needed for foods and snacks- please contact Food Service office (contact info listed below) to request specific food label info or to schedule a visit to the kitchen to read most current food label contents. \*

**Important Reminders!!!!!!**

- Due to issues with supply chain, some food substitutions are made without advance notice. If your student's allergy is severe, please periodically review food nutrition labels
- To ensure each student's safety, please encourage your student not to share food, whether brought in from home or purchased at school.
- Aramark is dedicated to a high standard of food safety. While we prevent any cross- contamination from harmful bacteria entering our food, students with severe allergies should still be aware of the possibility of cross-contact between food items that can occur while preparing the day's menu.
- While the makers of Nutrition Facts and Ingredient labels are required to disclose common allergens listed in the actual product, allergens in the manufacturer's facility that are not a part of the food item itself may or may not be disclosed.

If you have a specific question or don't see the information you're looking for on our website, please reach out to our Food Service team. We are happy to answer any questions you may have to ensure that you have confidence in the WCASD Food Service Program We look forward for the opportunity to serve and feed you safely 😊

**Aramark Contact Information**

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