

## FOOD AND DRINK POLICY

### Policy statement

The schools regard snack and meal times as an important part of the day. Meal times are a social time for children and adults and help children to learn about healthy eating. This is an opportunity for adults to role model healthy eating and appropriate behaviours.

We organise meal and snack times so that they are social occasions in which children and staff participate and help children to develop independence.

### 1. Allergies

- 1.1. At Minerva Education we recognise that some children can suffer from allergic reactions to certain foods including seafood, dairy products and seeds, but in particular foods containing nuts and nut derivatives all of which can cause anaphylactic shock.
- 1.2. The school is made aware of any of the children's dietary needs and preferences, including any allergies, from their parents on registration.
- 1.3. Parents are required to consult with staff to ensure that our records of their children's dietary needs, including any allergies, are kept up to date. They must provide the school with written confirmation of the allergy from their doctor.
- 1.4. We require staff to show sensitivity in providing for children's diets and allergies. Staff do not use a child's diet or allergy as a label for the child or make a child feel singled out because of his/her diet or allergy
- 1.5. All Minerva Education schools are nut free. This means that no food containing nuts should be brought onto the premises under any circumstances.
- 1.6. No cakes / sweets must be allowed into school from parents without accurate ingredients lists. Any cakes / sweets given to the school or class by parents must be checked by a responsible person who will record the items and inform the class teacher of any allergens present in the item. The class teacher should then check these against the care plans for any pupils in the class with known allergies.
- 1.7. Cakes or other food items brought into school by parents or staff for adult colleagues should also not contain nuts but do not need to be checked by the catering staff. Adults are responsible for their own allergies.

**This policy is reviewed annually by the Head and the governors.**

