Purpose

This handbook provides guidance for all Loudoun County Public School (LCPS) staff as they support students with severe allergies. The handbook identifies responsibilities and practices that, when followed consistently, promote a safe and inclusive “ALLERGY AWARE” environment for all students.

The Procedural Handbook provides:

1. Definition of Life Threatening Allergies
2. Responsibilities of Multi-disciplinary Team Members
3. Systemic Practices for Students with Allergies
4. Resources
Background

- 2009 - Caring for Students with Food Allergies
- 2013 - Supporting Students with Food Allergies
- 2017 - LCPS Procedural Handbook for Supporting Students with Food Allergies
Allergy Committee

- School Administrators
- Parents
- Resource Nurses
- Central Office Administration
Allergy Committee Process...

- Committee Members met from February 2017 - July 2017.
- Principals & Central Office Staff reviewed from July & August
- All stakeholder input was considered
The Allergy handbook is....

• A collaborative & comprehensive effort
• A fluid document w/ annual review
• Streamlined for clarity
• Supportive of all students PK - 12
IMPORTANT NOTE FOR ALL STAKEHOLDERS: Food is common in our public schools. Food is present in classrooms, cafeterias, school buses, after-school events, celebrations, field trips, etc. It is important that all stakeholders strive to create an ALLERGY AWARE environment where access and exposure to allergens are managed proactively. Please review the responsibilities and prevention expectations carefully to support our students with allergies and help create a culture that is ALLERGY AWARE.
Allergy Aware Focus

Inclusive  Practice Safety
Maintain Confidentiality
Proactive  Educated  Responsible
Life Threatening Allergies Defined

- 10.8% (8,880) LCPS students have allergies (Food, Pollen, Insect, etc.)
- 3.4% (2,776) LCPS students have epi-pens
- Students experience a physical impact and an emotional impact
- Treatment is the same, regardless of the allergen
Responsibilities

- Student
- Parent
- Principals and Other School Staff
- School Health Office Staff
- Instructional Staff
- School Counselor
Systematic Practices
Prevention Expectations and Procedures

- Classroom and School Environment
- Field Trips
- Physical Education & Recess
- Specials & Special Activities at School
- School-Sponsored After School Activities
- School Bus
- School Nutrition Services
- Cafeteria
- Appropriate Cleaning Procedures Defined

Pages. 12 - 16
Alternatives

- Rewards
- Celebrations
Training and Support

- Principals received training in September.
- Resource Nurses provided HCS training in August.
- Resource Nurses provided School Nurses training in August.
- Resource Nurses provide training to LCPS staff and will continue to provide training to ensure consistency.
Training and Support - Ongoing

- Training Modules will be on VISION
- Resource Nurses provide ongoing coaching and support for Health Office Staff in developing and implementing the Individual Health Care Plan & Allergy Action Plan
- Our focus is on consistent practices and messages

ALLERGY AWARE!
Sharing the Handbook

- Principals have copies of the handbook.
- Front Office Staff have a copy.
- Health Office Staff have a copy.
- All Staff have access to the Handbook on the Student Health Services intranet page and LCPS Website.
- Parents and students have access to the Handbook on the LCPS.org webpage under the Parent and Student Tabs and on the Student Health Services page.

Questions