



RADFORD IS AN ALLERGY AWARE SCHOOL

Why is it important that schools become allergy aware and allergy friendly?

In Australia, more than 90% of fatal reactions to food have occurred in children aged 5 years and older.¹

Of those who have died from anaphylaxis, 90% have been allergic to nuts, the exposure was accidental and usually away from the home (including at school).²

We need to accept that food allergies *are* serious and that food allergies *can* be fatal. As a result of this situation, we have been taking steps to become an 'Allergy Aware' school by informing staff, parents and students about the associated risks of these food allergies. Steps have included:

- requesting that no nut products at all are brought to school
- our Canteen being nut-free with any products sold or prepared;
- our Food Studies Department being nut-free with any prepared foods;
- providing updates to parent;
- requesting parents of children with severe allergies to keep us fully informed, and for the students to wear a MedicAlert bracelet.

For more information on Food and Nut Allergies:

Anaphylaxis Australia, phone: 1300 728 000, website: www.allergyfacts.org.au;

Australasian Society for Clinical Immunology and Allergy (ASCIA), website: www.allergy.org.au;

¹ Australasian Society of Clinical Immunology and Allergy 2004, *Guidelines for the prevention of food anaphylactic reactions in schools, preschools and child care centres.*

⁵ NSW Department of Education and Training and NSW Department of Health, *Anaphylaxis Guidelines for Schools.*
