

## **St. James School Allergy Awareness Policy**

More and more children are developing allergies. Food and bee sting allergies can be life threatening. In order to minimize this risk and provide a safe educational environment for all children, the following procedures must be taken and safety steps taken:

### **Family's Responsibility:**

- Notify the school of any allergies and their severity
- Provide written medical documentation, instructions, and medications as directed by a physician
- Discuss medical history, medication, and any other pertinent information with the school nurse
- Include a photo of the child for health record
- Provide properly labeled medications and replace medications after use or upon expiration
- Educate the child in the self-management of their allergy
  - Food allergies
    - Safe and unsafe foods
    - Strategies for avoiding exposure to unsafe foods
    - Symptoms of allergic reactions
    - How and when to tell an adult they may be having an allergy-related problem
    - How to read food labels
  - Provide emergency contact information
- Discuss field trips as related to student's allergy
- Parent provides food allergy students with their own "treats" for classroom celebrations/or food at school social gatherings
- Parent of food allergy affected students network to form support groups
- Parents instruct students not to share food

### **School's Responsibility:**

- Be knowledgeable about and follow applicable and state laws regarding allergies
- Review health records
- Include allergic students in school activities
- Work with parents to establish a prevention plan
- All medications are properly stored
- Emergency kit is available
- Physician's orders for epinephrine are easily accessible and clearly marked for individual students
- Students may carry their own epinephrine, if age appropriate
- School personnel are properly trained to administer epinephrine and reviewed annually
- Cafeteria staff aware of students with food allergies
- No eating policy on school buses
- Food is not permitted as a reward or incentive
- Food is not exposed in general areas
- Students do not share food
- List of students and specific allergies are listed in teacher's plan books and substitute folders
- "Allergy Alert" notation on classroom doors if allergic students are within
- Specific allergy is noted on card
- Educate all students through child appropriate story books about living with allergies