

# The Villages® *Early Learning Company*


## 2020-2021 Food Safety & Nutrition and Permission for Food Related Activities

The following food safety and nutrition information is provided to families for any and all food and drinks that are sent to school for their child. We request that food be nutritious and of the quantity and quality to meet the daily nutritional needs of your child. Suggestions for young children may be found on the USDA website at <http://www.choosemyplate.gov>.

- Food provided by parents must be properly stored in a sanitary manner at all times to prevent contamination or spoilage. If food is supposed to be kept cold, parents must include ice packs to keep food cold. Hot food must be heated at home and stored in a thermos to maintain proper temperature. All food/drink containers should be labeled with the child's first and last name.
- Foods that are associated with young children's choking incidents must not be provided to children under 4 years of age; such as, but not limited to, whole/round hot dogs, popcorn, chips, pretzel nuggets, whole grapes, nuts, hard cheese cubes/sticks and any food that is of similar shape and size of the trachea/ windpipe. Food for toddlers must be cut into pieces  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch or smaller to prevent choking.
- If a special diet is required for a child by a physician, a copy of the physician's order, and a copy of the diet must be provided for the child's file and followed by the family.
- The custodial parent or legal guardian must notify the program of any known food allergies, and written documentation must be maintained in the child's file for as long as the child is in care.
- Please include all items needed for your child's meals including utensils, napkins and drinks.
- No soda, candy or glass containers of any kind should be sent to school.

### Permission for Food Related Activities

Please indicate your permission below for food related events and make note of any important additional information we should be aware of.

- For my child to be given special food items (such as, but not limited to mini-cupcakes, ice cream cups, etc.) that are provided by families in celebration of their child's birthday. 

**I give my permission \_\_\_\_\_**


**I do NOT give permission \_\_\_\_**



- For my child to be given food items for holidays/themed related activities. Examples include...Pumpkin pie in a cup at Thanksgiving, gingerbread cookies at Christmas, tropical fruits during an island themed week, etc.

**I give my permission \_\_\_\_\_**

**I do NOT give permission \_\_\_\_**

- For my child to be given food items for snack/lunch from the school's extra supplies if they are forgotten from home. *If this occurs often, the school asks that you provide some back-up snacks/food to help replenish our emergency supplies.* 

**I give my permission \_\_\_\_\_**

**I do NOT give permission \_\_\_\_**

**Notes:**

Parent/legal guardian: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature Printed name Date

The Villages® Little Buffalo Learning Center - 560 Fieldcrest Drive, The Villages, FL 32162 - 352-259-6876  
The Villages® Early Childhood Center - 510 Old School Road, The Villages, FL 32162 - 352-259-7161