

## FSA Urgent Allergy Advice: Mustard ingredients contaminated with peanuts

### WSH client communications – Holroyd Howe

The Food Standards Agency has issued a UK-wide alert, advising people who have a peanut allergy to avoid consuming foods that contain or may contain mustard, mustard powder or mustard flour, until further notice, because they may have been contaminated with peanuts.

We would like to provide you with an update on the rapid action we have taken across the business, in line with the latest FSA advice.

- The FSA has identified one supplier who has used the contaminated ingredients, but there is no evidence other suppliers or WSH is affected.
- We took immediate precautionary measures by cascading information for action, which included:
  - Chefs and Allergy Champions at all locations were immediately briefed to enable them to communicate with pupils and school staff effectively, with repeated briefings as the FSA provides further information, highlighting the potential risk for those with a peanut allergy.
  - Displaying additional FSA point of sale notice
  - Furthermore, we have taken the additional step to stop serving foods containing mustard, mustard powder or mustard flour in all our school settings.

Our approach to allergen management is consistent and comprehensive, and we continue to regularly update and audit our allergen policies and processes. We work closely with school teams to collect up to date allergen information for new and existing pupils. A collaborative approach with the school and parents ensures allergens are carefully managed and information is updated regularly.

Menus are carefully designed and we work with schools to ensure clear identification processes and communication protect pupils with allergens.

We purchase all ingredients from approved suppliers who meet our high standards on allergen controls. At this stage, no products we supply have been subject to a product recall.

Our industry-leading training programme includes mandatory allergen training for all team members, with dedicated Allergen Champions at every location. Allergen Champions benefit from enhanced allergen training and provide a point of contact for pupils living with allergens, intolerances and/or coeliac disease. This training has recently been accredited by the Royal Society for Public Health, recognising our commitment to the education of our colleagues.

We will continue to be proactive in our response, working closely with the FSA, ensuring our teams and customers are provided with the latest guidance.

Kind Regards,



**Scott Morley**  
Regional Managing Director  
Holroyd Howe



**Robin Bidgood**  
Regional Managing Director  
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