

Important FSA Allergy Advice: Mustard ingredients contaminated with peanuts

On 27th September 2024, the Food Standards Agency (FSA) issued an urgent UK-wide allergy alert advising people with peanut allergies to avoid foods that contain or may contain mustard, mustard powder, or mustard flour until further notice, because they may have been contaminated with peanuts.

We immediately took rapid action across the business, including briefing Allergen Champions, displaying FSA point of sale notices and the additional step of stopping serving foods containing mustard, mustard powder or mustard flour in all our school settings.

We have continued to monitor the situation and review our strategy, ensuring we put the safeguarding of pupils with allergies at the forefront of our response.

Further measures we have taken exceed the FSA recommendations, as we deem them proportionate to risk to best support those living with peanuts allergies, these include:

- Removing risk from our supply chain with targeted electronic restrictions on suppliers with mustard confirmed as an ingredient in their products.
- Reviewed our processes and temporarily modified controls, instruction, training, and supervision to ensure our teams robustly identify, manage and communicate the risk of “may contain” mustard items in products/dishes.
- Amplified the peanut allergy risk of mustard products by displaying clear point of sale FSA allergy notices.
- Continue to work in partnership with the school to ensure those living with peanut allergies are directly informed of the risk and are avoiding consuming any “may contain” mustard items until further notice.

We will continue to be proactive in our response, ensuring our processes are robust and teams and customers are provided with clear and up to date guidance.

Kind Regards,



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