

# signingtreevenue

Deaf Cultural Centre, Ladywood Road, Birmingham, B16 8SZ

## FOOD ALLERGY POLICY

The Signing Tree Venue is committed to the health, wellbeing, and inclusion of all our guests.

However, we are not an allergen-free facility and cannot guarantee that guests with food allergies will not come into contact with allergens. The Signing Tree does not make any guarantees, implicit or explicit, that any of our food, serving vessels, preparation vessels, utensils, or glassware will be free of all allergens. However, within reasonable limits, we will work to assist guests and groups in self-management of food allergies and provide them with a safe and enjoyable experience, within the limits of this policy.

In order to best serve groups and individuals in the area of food allergies, The Signing Tree Venue has adopted the following policies.

### Responsibilities

#### **Organisations/Groups booking an event at the centre must:**

- Identify group members with food allergies and be aware of the nature of them.
- Notify the Signing Tree of the nature of the allergy at the time of booking.
- Make other group members aware of any restrictions on the food they may bring with them and anything they should do to avoid exposing the affected guest to food allergens.
- Ensure that there is a qualified adult in the group to provide basic health supervision. This person or a member of the group should possess current certification in first aid and CPR by a nationally-recognized provider. This person should be familiar with the appropriate medications and/or rescue treatments for all group members suffering from food allergies or other life-threatening conditions.
- Gather, maintain, and have available at all time's information on all members of the group, which includes: name, address, emergency contact names and numbers, and any allergies/health conditions/restrictions. For minors without a parent on site, group leaders should also have signed permission to seek emergency treatment.
- Identify resources at the Signing Tree Venue that can be used in case of emergency (e.g., nearest telephone, supplemental first aid remedies, administrator on-call contact information.)

#### **Individuals with a food allergy or the parent/guardian of the guest with a food allergy must:**

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- Notify the Signing Tree Venue of the nature of the allergy.
- Assist the Signing Tree Venue in identifying reasonable strategies to manage the food allergy.
- Share the guest's Food Allergy Action Plan with the facilitator and others who will be in close contact with the guest.
- Provide appropriate medications and/or rescue treatments for the guest to carry at all times.
- Make sure all medications and prescriptions are up-to-date.

## **Signing Tree Venue will undertake the following in the case of food allergy:**

- Be an "allergy-aware" facility that works to provide an inclusive, least-restrictive environment for our guests to the best of our abilities.
- Assist the guest or guest's parent/guardian in identifying reasonable and appropriate self-management strategies for dealing with food allergies in our café, venue and on our grounds.
- Allow guests with documented food allergies to replace the Venue food with their own allergen-free food so they can participate.
- Make maps and directions to area healthcare facilities available to guests and group leaders.