FACE **Food and Drink (including Allergen) Policy**

FACE is committed to providing healthy, nutritious and tasty food and drinks for children during our sessions. The manager and staff will make every effort to ensure that food and drink is safely prepared and sensitive to the dietary, religious and cultural requirements of all the children.

When preparing food and drink, staff will be mindful of the provisions of food hygiene policies to ensure that the safety of staff and children is paramount. In addition to these provisions, staff will be careful to ensure both the safety of themselves and children when using sharp or dangerous equipment in food and drink preparation.

The manager and staff are mindful of their responsibilities and obligations under the Food Safety Act 1990. The club is registered with the local authority to provide food. All staff who either handle or prepare food have up to date Food Handling Certificates and are fully trained in food storage, preparation, cooking and food safety. At least one member of staff has Food Allergy & Intolerance training.

As part of a child’s settling in period, the club requires that the parents and carers complete the Admissions Form, including information about any special dietary requirements or allergies the child suffers from. The manager and staff will ensure that food and drink offered to children takes account of this information so as to safeguard their health and meet – as far as possible – their particular preferences.

No child will ever be forced to eat or drink something against their will and the withholding or granting of food and drink will never be used as either a punishment or reward.

## Healthy Eating

FACE recognises the importance of healthy eating and a balanced and nutritious diet. We will aim to follow current Government guidance on the types of food to be served at this type of setting. Therefore, the club will endeavour to make a variety of foods available including fruit, vegetables, vegetarian and vegan options, and low fat, low salt and low sugary food.

Children may be asked to take home sweets that have been given out at school or by parents rather than eating them at the club. FACE will provide a choice of non-sugary drinks and make sure that fresh drinking water is always available.

**Allergens & Food Intolerance**

Parents are asked to keep the club up to date about any food allergies or intolerances that a child has.

FACE & Breakfast club will then use this information to plan, prepare and serve food in a managed way that stops the chance of your child consuming this food as far as is practically possible and that is within FACE/Breakfast Club’s control.

Parents are required to inform us when registering a child for FACE/Breakfast Club about any allergies and need to give written confirmation to the club manager if this information changes especially if any new allergies or intolerances occur.

Parents need to follow the School/ Catering Provider guidance on allergens as well as FACE/Breakfast Club guidance. A copy of this is available on the School’s website.

Staff will take instruction from children if they tell us that they have an allergy or intolerance for a food that is being served. Staff will then ask the parent to confirm either by email or at pick up/ drop off time. This precaution may help reduce the chance of incorrect food being served however, owing to the age range attending the club combined with the possible risk involved, verbal instruction from your child is not deemed to be an appropriate means of informing the club of any allergies or intolerances.

*Approved by A.Walker (Head) March 2022*