



Pinnacle American School Food and Nutrition Policy

Aligned with ADEK School Food and Nutrition Policy (Version 1.2, November 2025)

1. Introduction and Purpose

A healthy and balanced diet is crucial for the overall physical, mental, and emotional well-being of students. This policy defines the minimum standards required to create a healthy, safe, and sustainable food environment within the school community.

Purpose:

- To ensure the school's food and nutrition services comply with the Abu Dhabi Guideline for Unified School Nutrition and Food Safety (ADG2) and relevant ADEK requirements.
- To enhance nutritional awareness and promote healthier eating habits and sustainable practices.

2. Policy Requirements and Food Standards

The school will implement this Food and Nutrition Policy in full alignment with ADEK's School Food and Nutrition Policy (Version 1.2, November 2025) and ADG2 guidelines.

2.1 Healthy and Sustainable Food Environment

- Full compliance with ADG2 food safety and nutrition standards.
- Strict prohibition of all Red List food and beverage items on school premises and at school events.
- Implementation of sustainable food practices including waste reduction and sustainable sourcing.
- Food produced on school grounds will not be served or sold, except raw fruits/vegetables for educational use following risk assessment.

2.1.1 Large-Scale School Events

For large-scale events (e.g., International Day, fairs, fundraisers), event-specific controls will ensure all food meets ADG2 requirements. Vendors must sign compliance declarations. Red List items are strictly prohibited.

All external food vendors operating during school events must hold valid Abu Dhabi Municipality food safety licensing and comply with ADG2 standards. Copies of licenses and compliance declarations must be submitted to the school prior to event approval.

2.2 Mealtime Procedures and Supervision

- Active supervision during snack and mealtimes.
- Water is the default beverage at all meals and events.
- Microwaves are not accessible to students for safety reasons.

2.3 Lunchbox Alignment and Compliance

- All home-packed meals must meet ADG2 standards.

- At lunchtime, students must consume a balanced meal aligned with ADG2 My Plate requirements.

Desserts and Sweets:

- Permitted only during snack or breakfast times.
- Not permitted as lunch items.
- Limited to one portion per student per break period.

Daily Visual Spot Checks:

- Daily respectful spot checks conducted on a sample of lunchboxes.
- Same-day parent notification for non-compliance.
- Documentation maintained.

Non-Compliance Procedure:

- Three documented notifications trigger provision of a compliant alternative meal (where food services operate).
- Parents may be charged for alternative meals.
- Condition included in parent-school agreement.

Confiscation and Waste Management:

- Non-compliant food will not be disposed of.
- Donation system used for eligible unopened items.
- Returned items may not be consumed on school premises or buses.

Food Sharing and Delivery:

- Food sharing prohibited unless explicitly authorized and ADG2 compliant.
- External food delivery services are not permitted during school hours.

2.4 Positive Food Environment and Communication

- Staff will use positive, wellbeing-focused language when discussing food.
- Policy clearly communicated to all stakeholders.
- Ongoing feedback mechanisms implemented.

2.5 Personal Hygiene Before Eating

- Students must wash or sanitize hands before eating.
- Hand hygiene signage displayed.

- Staff support younger students as required.

3. Food Allergy Management

- Up-to-date Allergy Management Plan maintained.
- Staff trained in allergy response including epinephrine use.
- Allergy records maintained and accessible.
- Written parent requests required for special dietary accommodations.
- Risk assessments conducted for allergy-related needs.

4. Policy Communication and Engagement

- Guidelines shared at the start of each academic year and upon admission.
- Policy referenced in Parent Handbook and Parent–School Agreement.
- Nutrition sessions conducted at least once per term.
- Same-day communication for food-related concerns.
- Records maintained for food-related complaints.
- No advertising or promotion of non-compliant food permitted.

5. Cultural and Religious Considerations

- Religious and cultural dietary needs respected.
- Non-Muslim students may bring non-halal meat from home for personal consumption only. No sharing permitted.

6. Monitoring and Accountability

The **HSE & Wellbeing Department** is responsible for overseeing the implementation, monitoring, and documentation of this policy.

The department will:

- Conduct routine compliance checks.
- Maintain records of lunchbox monitoring and non-compliance notifications.
- Ensure vendor and event compliance documentation is retained.
- Report compliance status to the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) on a termly basis.
- Ensure corrective actions are implemented where necessary.

The School Principal retains overall accountability for policy enforcement.

Conclusion

This policy reflects Pinnacle American School’s commitment to a safe, healthy, and sustainable food environment. Full compliance with ADEK requirements will be achieved by 30 March 2026.

Next Steps

The policy will be implemented across the school community, with ongoing monitoring to ensure compliance. Staff training and documentation procedures will support adherence to the policy.

Document Control

Policy Review Cycle

This policy will be formally reviewed **annually**, or sooner if required due to updates issued by ADEK or amendments to ADG2 regulations.

Any revisions will be communicated to staff, students, and parents, and updated versions will replace previous editions in all official school documentation.

Version	Date	Prepared By	Approved By
2.0	February 2026	HSE & Wellbeing Department	School Principal