

Pantry Suggestions for Special Dietary Needs

The following can assist you with suggested items for your pantry to manage allergies and intolerances.

Remember this is a GUIDE only – always check labels and if you are unsure, contact the food manufacturer.

FOOD GROUP	SUGGESTIONS	COMMENTS
Grain (Cereal) Foods	Gluten free commercial flour mixes	Check labels for statements regarding ingredients such as — may be free from gluten, wheat, nuts, dairy, egg & yeast, some mixes contain soy flour Check the label for allergen advice Some mixes contain xanthan or guar gum to minimise crumbling and improve texture and stability Xanthan or guar gum can be bought separately from supermarkets or health food stores
	Maize cornflour	Useful gluten free alternative for thickening sauces and custards, also low in salicylates and amines
	Gluten free pasta	An easy substitute for wheat pasta – check ingredients for allergen advice
	Gluten free baking powder	Check the label for allergen advice. To make your own: 1 tsp baking powder = ½ tsp baking soda + ½ tsp cream of tartar
Fruit & Vegetables	Pears – well ripened or canned in syrup	All foods listed on the left are low in the food chemicals salicylates, amines and glutamates Other fruits low in food chemicals include: golden delicious apples, pawpaw (not overripe)





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Your Partner in Earl	y Years	Nutritio
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	Potatoes – large & thickly peeled	Other vegetables low in food chemicals include: cabbage, iceberg lettuce, beans, plain legumes, brussel sprouts, shallots, garlic, or leeks.	
Dairy Alternatives	Plant based dairy alternatives: Soy, rice and oat milk or yoghurt (nut based alternatives have not been included as ECEC settings are generally nut free)	The high protein content and similar nutrient profile makes soy milk an easy substitute for cow's milk. Choose a variety that is also gluten free to maximize versatility Check the label for allergen advice Purchase fortified dairy alternatives (calcium – 100mg per 100mL and added vitamin B12)	
	Lactose free milk is cow's milk with the lactose removed	Suitable for people with dairy allergies or on lactose free diets	
Egg Alternatives	Pureed fruit Gelatine Baking powder Chia seeds Tofu Flaxseed Xanthan gum Commercial egg replacers (available in supermarkets and health food stores)	 Equals one egg in a recipe: 1 sachet gelatine and 2 tbsp warm water (do not mix until ready to use) 2 tbsp water and ½ tsp baking powder ½ large, mashed banana – for cakes and muffins ½ cup apple sauce/apple puree or pureed prunes 1 tbsp ground flaxseed/linseed mixed with 3 tbsp water 1 cup soft mashed tofu ½ tsp xanthan gum with ½ cup water – let stand; it thickens and can be whipped like an egg white 1 tbsp Chia seeds and 2.5 tbspn of water (soak until thickened) Commercial egg replacer – follow packet instructions 	





Your Partner in Early Years Nutrition

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Lean Meats & Alternatives	Lamb or beef Poultry – skin removed Fish Tofu Protein rich plant foods	 Note that amines are produced with storage – meat and alternatives should be as fresh as possible (avoid cryovac packaged varieties if possible) Freeze if not for immediate use Tofu is high in protein and a healthy meat substitute Protein rich plant foods include beans, lentils, chickpeas.
Fats & Oils	Sunflower, canola or safflower oils Milk and soy free margarine	These oils are low in the food chemicals salicylates, amines and glutamates
Miscellaneous	Pure vanilla essence	Must be pure vanilla as imitation vanilla essence contains additives that may cause reactions in children with food intolerances
	Gluten free yeast extract	Check the label for allergen advice

