



Handling Fresh Produce in Classrooms, continued

Guidance for Teachers and Aids

- Wash hands thoroughly with soap and water prior to handling or serving fresh fruits and vegetables to students.*
- Allow time for students to wash their hands with soap and water prior to eating fresh produce, if possible.
- Use hand sanitizers if soap and water are not available. Hand sanitizers alone kill most, but not all, types of germs.
- Keep produce cold, or serve produce as soon as possible after it is delivered to the classroom.
- Do not serve any cut produce that has been held at room temperature for more than 2 hours or above 90 °F for more than one hour.**
- Distribute produce or allow students to select pre-packaged produce to minimize potential contamination.

Follow the Food Code for your local or state jurisdiction. Consult your school district's food safety plan for appropriate actions when temperature standards are not met. Ask your local health department if you have any questions.

*For hand washing information refer to the National Food Service Management Institute's resource, *Wash Your Hands: Educating the School Community*: <http://www.nfsmi.org/ResourceOverview.aspx?ID=118>

**Source: The Partnership for Food Safety Education. www.fightbac.org/safe-food-handling/chill

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