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Headteacher: Mr. A. Reeves

9th January 2020

Dear Parents,

I am writing to clarify that our school is an allergy aware school and has operated as 'nut aware' since 2017. The school policies are constantly reviewed and the food policy is under review as we speak, including details on food allergies. Following a Facebook notice today it was made clear that this information is not easily found or apparent on the website but it has previously been communicated through Newsletters. As such we are writing to you to ensure that all our parents are clear on the schools' position regarding nuts.

There are a number of children with various allergies in school and we strive to be 'nut aware' ensuring that food from our kitchen is nut free and we would ask that parents take steps to ensure the same is true of lunches packed at home, although this can be much harder for parents.

To protect vulnerable pupils with allergies we work hard to ensure that:

- children do not share food,
- that parents do not send in food that obviously contains nuts and that staff will be aware for any food obviously containing nuts.
- that food prepared and served by school is nut free.
- children that DO bring in food that does contain nuts or nut products will be asked to eat that food away from any child with a nut allergy and to wash their hands before going to play.
- children are encouraged to wash their hands before and after eating.
- some staff are trained in understanding and dealing with Anaphylaxis (severe allergic reactions) and will use this training as the need arises.

Whilst we will make every effort to ensure pupils with allergies are protected, it is difficult to monitor food and staff will not be inspecting each packed lunch. Therefore, we request the following: if a food product says it "**does contain nuts**" or "**may contain peanuts**", the school does not want these products brought into school. However, products labelled "**may contain nuts**" are allowed.

Foods that are particularly problematic and that should not be brought into school include:

- Peanut butter sandwiches
- Chocolate spreads
- Cereal bars
- Some granola bars
- Cakes that contain nuts
- Biscuits / Cookies that contain nuts
- Peanut butter cakes

We will be adopting a new policy in January 2020 which will be shared online with you all and which will further outline guidance on this matter. In the meantime, please follow the advice given above.

If you have any queries, please contact the school office.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. A. Reeves
Headteacher

