



2 September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

At Bower Park Academy, we strive to provide a safe learning environment for all students. Due to some of our students suffering with life-threatening nut allergies, we have been advised by the School Nurse to become a '**NUT ALLERGY AWARE SCHOOL**' and this will come into effect on 7 September 2020.

An allergic reaction (anaphylactic shock) can occur through ingestion of nut products, cross-contamination and breathing nut dust in the air.

The school's *Nut Allergy Awareness Policy* is available to read on the school website.

Since this condition can be life threatening, we are asking **all members of the school community** for their help in minimising the risk to these children by:-

- (a) Not giving children nuts or nut products in their packed lunches (please note that the school's catering contractor is a nut-free business).
- (b) Not giving nuts or nut products, or snacks/bars containing nuts, for break-time snacks.
- (c) Not supplying cakes or food items containing nuts for birthday celebrations, sales or events.
- (d) Not sending containers, such as cereal boxes, for Food, Design Technology or Art lessons into school, which may have contained or been produced using nuts.

We cannot have nuts in school in any form. Examples being:-

- Peanut butter sandwiches.
- Chocolate bars or spreads that contain nuts.
- Fruit and cereal bars that contain nuts.
- Some granola bars.
- Cakes that contain nuts.
- Biscuits/cookies that contain nuts.
- Cakes made with nuts.
- Sauces that contain nuts.
- Sesame seed rolls (children allergic to nuts may also have a severe reaction to sesame).



This list is not exhaustive, so **please check the packaging of products closely.**

All product packaging must be checked for warnings directed at nut allergy sufferers to indicate that they are suitable for school consumption.

Please note that, where a member of staff notices a pupil eating a nut product, the product will be removed politely, with an explanation. A message will then be sent to the student's parent/carer to explain what has happened and to remind you of the school's *Nut Allergy Awareness Policy*.

First Aid staff in the school are trained in the use of Epi-pens (an injection of adrenalin) which will be used in accordance with our Health and Safety policy.

Due to the severity of the problem, it is important that all parents/carers carry out the suggested measures and reduce the risk of an allergic reaction to these children.

I realise that this is a significant change in school policy. However, it has been introduced on the recommendation of the School Nurse Team, due to specific allergies of some pupils. This has been adopted by the school Governors to ensure that the school takes all reasonable steps to keep all of its students safe.

We thank you in advance for your co-operation and support regarding this matter.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to speak to a member of staff.

Yours faithfully



**S Deen
Principal**