

Cottingham Church of England Primary School

Berryfield Road
Cottingham
Market Harborough
Leicestershire
LE16 8XB

Telephone: 01536 771391
Fax: 01536 772226
Headteacher: Mr Ashley Scott
E-mail: head@cottinghamprimary.co.uk
www: www.cottinghamprimary.co.uk
Twitter: @CottinghamCofE

Wednesday 28th August 2019

Dear Parent/carers,

At Cottingham CofE Primary School we strive to provide a safe learning environment for all pupils and staff. From September, due to a pupil suffering with life threatening allergies to cow's milk, eggs and peanuts, we have taken the decision to become a NUT/ALLERGY AWARE SCHOOL. An allergic reaction, which could lead to anaphylactic shock, can occur through ingestion of nut products, cross contamination and breathing nut dust in the air.

Since a condition, such as a nut, dairy, food allergy, can be life threatening, we are asking all members of the school community for their help in minimising the risk to any children/staff by:

- Avoiding giving children nuts or nut products in their packed lunches
- Avoiding giving nuts or nut products, or snack bars containing these for break time snacks
- When providing snacks, provide healthy alternatives
- Avoiding supplying the school or PTFA with cakes or food items containing nuts for birthday celebrations, sales or events
- Avoiding sending containers such as cereal/egg boxes for DT / Art lessons into school which may have contained produce made with nuts for example
- Educate your child at home with regards to allergies and how they can affect us
- Encourage and remind children about the importance of washing hands thoroughly before school and after eating
- If your child is to bring in celebration foods such as cakes, sweets or treats, please inform the office/class teacher and a healthy alternative can be offered to a child with an allergy (Also for gluten free etc) therefore ensuring that no child misses out

We do acknowledge that many foods are labelled as 'may have been produced in a factory handling nuts and cannot be guaranteed to be nut free'. Such items will be allowed in school as it would be unreasonable to expect these to be kept out of school. We do ask for your assistance in avoiding these products where possible though. Many other alternatives are available.

Please note where a member of staff notices a pupil eating a nut product, the product will be removed politely and the member of staff will explain why this has to be done. A message will then be sent to the parent to explain what has happened so they are fully informed and to remind them of the Allergies policy. The product will be discarded safely by staff.

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Due to the severity of the allergy, it is important that all parents and staff carry out the suggested measures and reduce the risk of allergic reaction to a child. I realise this is a significant change in school policy but it has been introduced on due to the specific allergy of a pupil and with consent/consultation with the child's parent/s.

The children will be reminded at various times from September about allergies and the possible affects that they can have on us. I would like to thank you in advance for your co-operation and support regarding this matter. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at your convenience.

I am sure that we will all do our very best to make the school safe for our new arrival and to all other children, staff and visitors to the school.

Yours sincerely,

Ashley Scott (Headteacher)