



St. Edward's Church of England Academy

Westwood Road, Leek, ST13 8DN

Telephone: 01538 714740

Principal: Mr. T. Hutchinson

<http://stedwards.academy>

September 2017

Dear Parent(s) / Carer(s),

Each year the staff at St Edward's Church of England Academy undertake basic medical training. This includes asthma, diabetes, epilepsy and the causes of **anaphylaxis**.

As you may be aware, anaphylaxis is an extreme and severe **allergic reaction** which can be life threatening. Not only can be this very frightening for the individual, but also anyone else that witnesses it.

As you can imagine, in a school of our size we often have pupils and or staff who have severe allergies which could result in anaphylaxis. The most common of these is **nuts, and in particular, peanuts**. In cases of severe allergies, even being in the proximity of peanuts can cause an anaphylactic shock. It is for this very reason that many airlines now ask for all passengers to refrain from eating these items on the plane.

Our canteen is already one where there are no meals prepared containing nuts.

Here at St Edward's Church of England Academy, we take the health and well-being of our pupils and staff very seriously and we would like to ask parent(s) / carer(s) for their support by not including nut products in their child(ren's) lunchboxes.

Our members of staff have already agreed to this preventative measure and endeavor to not bring any nut products into school.

May I also ask parent(s)/ carer(s) to discuss the importance of this with their son / daughter so that they do not purchase any nut products and bring them into school. This would also include some chocolate bars such as 'Snickers' and breakfast cereal bars.

We will also be reminding pupils of this during assemblies in the next week or so, how important it is that we support this initiative, and how we need to be extra vigilant when in confined spaces such as when on school transport.

Thank you for your anticipated support in this matter and please do not hesitate to contact the Academy if you have any further queries.

Yours sincerely,

Mr J. Parrish
Vice Principal

