

TAI/ts

17 July, 2024

Dear Parents/Carers



Student with serious 'airborne' allergy to nuts and seeds

Please be aware one of our new Year 7 students in September has a 'serious airborne' allergy to nuts and seeds and **MUST NOT** have any form of contact with any person who has consumed nuts and seeds or products containing nuts and seeds within the previous six hours.

We have an increasing number of students in our school who have nut allergies. Anaphylaxis (allergic reaction) can occur as a result of **digestion, inhalation** or **any other contact** with nut-based and seed-based products. For the safety of these students, all nut-based products have been banned from the school premises.

From this point forward, please do not send your child into school with any nut-based or seed-based product for packed lunch including products that may contain traces of nuts and seeds.

Potential allergens could include the following:

- spreads eg chocolate spread;
- cereal bars;
- some types of biscuit containing nuts and seeds;
- condiments eg satay sauce;
- cakes containing nuts, seeds; and
- some snack pots containing nuts and seeds.

It is important that you check the labelling of food products before sending your child in to school with them as it is not always apparent that products contain nuts or traces of nuts and seeds.

We also ask that your child **does not** consume any nut-based or seed-based product before school. We understand that these measures may seem extreme; however, we want to ensure the health and safety of all our students, and for some students with the allergy it will be severe enough that even the slightest of contact with nuts could cause a severe and potentially life-threatening reaction.

Due to the severity of the allergy, if any student is found with a nut-based or seed-based product after this letter has been distributed, the school will confiscate it and contact parents immediately.

Staff will be receiving further anaphylaxis training in September, 2024.

We appreciate that this is a big change for all and apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.

Thank you for your support in this matter.

Yours faithfully

Mrs T Airoll
Headteacher

Tel: 01702 900777

Email: info@southchurchschool.com

Website: www.southchurchschool.com

Southchurch High School, Southchurch Boulevard, Southend-on-Sea, Essex. SS2 4XA



Headteacher: Mrs T Airoll