



Tuesday 8th September 2026

Allergy Management and Benedict's Law

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are writing to inform you about important changes to allergy management in schools following the introduction of Benedict's Law, which comes into effect from September 2026. The legislation is named in memory of Benedict Blythe, a young child who tragically died following a severe allergic reaction at school, and aims to strengthen allergy safety measures in schools across England.

The new legal requirements are intended to help schools prevent, recognise and respond effectively to serious allergic reactions, including anaphylaxis. Under Benedict's Law, schools must have a dedicated allergy policy, provide allergy awareness training for staff, maintain spare adrenaline auto-injectors (AAIs), and ensure appropriate healthcare plans are in place for pupils with diagnosed allergies.

At Southcoates Primary Academy, the safety and wellbeing of all children remains our highest priority. To ensure we meet these requirements, we are:

- Reviewing and updating our Allergy Safety Policy.
- Providing allergy awareness and emergency response training for all staff.
- Maintaining emergency adrenaline auto-injectors on site.
- Reviewing Individual Healthcare Plans for pupils with diagnosed allergies.
- Strengthening our procedures for recording, reporting and learning from allergy-related incidents.

We kindly ask for your support in helping us keep all children safe by:

- Informing the school promptly of any diagnosed allergies or changes to your child's medical needs.
- Providing up-to-date medication and ensuring it remains within its expiry date.
- Working with us to review Individual Healthcare Plans where applicable.
- Encouraging your child to understand and communicate their allergy needs where appropriate.

We would also like to take this opportunity to remind families that **Southcoates Primary Academy is a nut-free school**. To help protect children with severe allergies, we ask that nuts and nut-containing products are not brought into school. This includes products such as Nutella and other chocolate or nut spreads, peanut butter, mixed nut snacks and foods containing nuts as ingredients.

In addition, as part of our ongoing commitment to maintaining a safe environment for all pupils, and in light of the increased focus on allergy management, **we will no longer be able to accept cakes, sweets or other food treats brought into school for children to share with their classmates to celebrate birthdays** or other occasions. We appreciate that these gestures are made with kindness;



however, this change will help us to reduce risks associated with food allergens and ensure the safety of all children.

While we cannot guarantee an allergen-free environment, we will continue to take all reasonable steps to minimise risks and support children with allergies to participate fully and safely in school life.

If your child has a diagnosed allergy and you have not recently updated the school with relevant medical information, please contact the school office as soon as possible.

Thank you for your continued cooperation and support as we implement these important measures and work together to create a safer environment for all pupils.

Should you have any questions regarding our allergy procedures, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Libera', with a stylized, cursive script.

Mr T.A. Libera

Principal