

Westways Primary School

Mona Avenue, Sheffield, S10 1NE

Tel. 0114 2662471

enquiries@westways.sheffield.sch.uk

Headteacher: Charles Hollamby

Co-chairs of Governors: Paul Robinson & Anna Rudkin



Wednesday 2nd September 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

As we begin a new academic year, we are writing to share an important update. In line with Benedict's Law, we have published our standalone Whole School Allergy Policy. The safety of our school community is our absolute priority and we would like to take this opportunity to invite you to view this policy on our website and to get in touch with us if you need to update your child's allergy records or if you have any questions.

We would also like to remind you that as a school we are 'Allergy Aware' rather than 'Nut Free'. This decision was made upon seeking advice from various agencies including Sheffield Public Health and Allergy UK. This is because nuts are only one of many allergens that affect pupils in our school and no school can absolutely guarantee an allergen free environment. Each of these agencies advocates that strong practice around allergy awareness is safer for pupils as it prepares them for how to manage their allergy in less controlled conditions and avoids complacency around the potential presence of allergens in the environment.

What does this mean for my child?

- Nuts and all products which contain nuts must not be sent to school as a snack or as part of a child's lunch.
- If a staff member notices nut products in a pupil's lunch or snack, they will take the product and return it at the end of the school day. They will also, if necessary, supplement the pupil's lunch or snack with an alternative.
- We are asking that no food products are sent into school to celebrate special occasions such as birthdays or religious feasts. We appreciate the kind intent behind these gestures; however, with the increasing number of pupils with severe allergies as well as those who avoid certain food groups on the grounds of their personal or religious beliefs, it is becoming increasingly difficult for teachers to manage this safely. As a reminder, any whole class food-based rewards that are sent to school will be returned to parents.
- Pupils will not be allowed to share foods from their lunch boxes with others.

Thank you for your continued support in keeping all pupils who attend Westways safe. If you have any questions, please contact us at: enquiries@westways.sheffield.sch.uk.

Kind regards

Naoimh Tyrrell

Deputy Headteacher