ST PETER'S BRAFFERTON CE (VA) PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mrs Sarah Anderson

ST PETER'S BRAFFERTON

Helperbees Preschool

14th October 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Allergy school update

As part of our ongoing commitment to keeping every child safe, healthy, and included at St Peter's Brafferton CE VA Primary School. We are writing to share important updates regarding our school allergy safety procedures following the implementation of Benedict's Law.

What is Benedict's Law?

Benedict's Law is national statutory guidance established in memory of Benedict Blythe. It shifts allergy safety from an optional practice to a mandatory, whole-school legal requirement. The law ensures that every child with a diagnosed allergy is properly supported, staff are fully trained to recognise and respond to severe allergic reactions (anaphylaxis), and life-saving equipment is immediately accessible.

Key Requirements in Our School

Under the guidance, St Peter's Brafferton has updated its procedures to include:

- **Whole-School Policy:** A clear, published allergy and medical conditions policy available on our website.
- **Mandatory Staff Training:** Comprehensive anaphylaxis and emergency response training for all school staff.
- **Spare Adrenaline Auto-Injectors (AAIs):** Stocking spare, in-date emergency adrenaline pens on site for emergency use.
- **Individual Healthcare Plans (IHCPs):** A formal, up-to-date care plan developed in partnership with parents for every child with a diagnosed allergy.

- **Safe Environment Practices:** Proactive allergen management across school meals, clubs, trips, and daily activities, while promoting an inclusive, anti-bullying environment.

How You Can Help Us Keep Your Child Safe

To ensure we meet these requirements and protect your child, we ask all parents and carers to take the following steps:

1. Provide Current Medical Information: Inform the school office immediately of any diagnosed allergies, asthma, or new clinical advice.

2. Submit or Update Your Child's Action Plan: Please provide an up-to-date Allergy Action Plan issued by your clinician or healthcare provider (such as a BSACI plan) along with a recent photograph of your child.

3. Provide Prescribed Medication: Ensure your child brings **two prescribed, in-date adrenaline auto-injectors (AAIs)** (e.g., EpiPen, Jext, or Emerade) to school and replace them before they expire.

4. Follow Food and Snack Guidelines: Please adhere to our school rules regarding packed lunches (**no nuts including Nutella sandwiches/dips, cereal bars with nuts or peanut butter**), shared classroom treats, and birthday celebrations (no cakes brought in, individual packets of sweets can be handed out to be eaten at home under parent supervision).

5. Review and Sign IHCPs: Participate in reviewing your child's Individual Healthcare Plan when invited by the school medical lead.

Action: If your child has a known allergy and you have not yet submitted their current action plan or medication to the school office, please contact us as soon as possible.

Other food items served in school

- PTA will continue to sell cakes at cake stalls, but ingredients will be listed;
- Hot chocolate will continue to be served as the fortnightly House Team reward, and an alternative drink will be available for those with allergies;
- Birthday buns (all dietary needs will be met) will continue to be served as they are made on the school site by staff with a food handling and hygiene certificate. Ingredients have been sourced and checked by Mrs Anderson (parents may request to see the recipe if required and can decline the birthday bun if they wish although no alternative can be provided).

- Christmas (children's) parties will have small packets of sweets/chocolate treats provided. Pupils with allergies will be provided with safe treats for them and this will be checked with parents in advance.

Thank you for your partnership, support, and shared dedication to making our school a safe space for every student.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs S. Anderson

Headteacher