For Learning That Lasts A Lifetime

November 2026

Dear Parent/Carers

Keeping our Children Safe: Allergy Awareness and Benedict's Law

You may have seen recent news coverage about Benedict's Law, new guidance being introduced to strengthen allergy safe in schools. The guidance follows the tragic death of five year old Benedict Blythe after an allergic reaction at school and aims to ensure that schools across the country have robust measures in place to protect children with allergies.

At St Margaret's-at-Cliffe Primary School, we are proud of our inclusive school community and are committed to ensuring that every child feels safe, supported and able to take part fully in school life. The new requirements place a greater emphasis on allergy awareness, staff training, emergency preparedness and reducing unnecessary risks for children with allergies. As part of our ongoing work in this area we are making a small number of changes to further reduce the risk of accidental exposure to allergens.

What this means for our school?

Emergency medication
If your child is prescribed an Adrenaline Auto Injector (AAI), you must provide the school with two in-date devices and check their expiry dates regularly.

We hold a stock of spare Adrenaline Auto Injectors (AAIs) on site which are easily accessible from the main school office, providing an additional safeguard should a severe allergic reaction occur.

Packed lunches and class visits
We would like to remind families that nutty snacks, chocolate spreads and other nut-based sandwich fillings should not be included in packed lunches. This expectation also applies to packed lunches taken on educational visits and school trips. The children will not be allowed to share their packed lunches with others.

Identification
Children with food allergies will wear a red wrist band into the school hall to ensure they are correctly identified by the school staff and kitchen staff who serve them. Once lunch service is complete they will remove their band.

Policy
Our full, updated policy is available to read on our school website.

Thank you
Thank you for your understanding, support and partnership as we continue to place the wellbeing of all children at the heart of everything we do. For families living with severe allergies, these measures provide reassurance that school is a safe place for their child to learn, play and thrive.

Yours sincerely

Mr N Brinicombe
Headteacher

St. Margaret's-at-Cliffe Primary School
Sea Street, St. Margaret's-at-Cliffe, Dover, Kent, CT15 6SS
Headteacher: Neil Brinicombe
Telephone: 01304 852639
secretary@st-margarets-dover.kent.sch.uk
www.stmargaretsprimary.co.uk