



**MR MARTIN BONNER - BA (Hons); PGCE; M.A.Ed.**  
Head Teacher

St Francis of Assisi Academies Trust: 08462151  
Diocese of Northampton

Monday, 10<sup>th</sup> February 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

### Allergies/Nuts in School

In recent communication we alerted you to the increased risk and number of students and staff at St Thomas More who suffer from food allergies and intolerances. We would like to remind you of the following when sending your child or allowing your child to bring items into school to eat during their breaks. **In some instances students and or staff nut allergies are severe enough that they do not need to consume products containing nuts to have an allergic reaction, but merely be in the vicinity of these items.**

**Please could the following advice be shared with your child and request the following rules are followed:**

- Nuts and products containing nuts should not be brought into school at any time, and should be avoided in packed lunches.
- Nuts and products containing nuts must not be taken on school trips or to sports fixtures. Nuts and products containing nuts must not be consumed on transport between venues when students are away from school – the aim of this is to reduce the risk of an airborne allergic reaction and cross-contamination.
- Students with allergies should be encouraged to **not** accept snacks from friends.
- Use of food in crafts, cooking classes, science experiments and special events (e.g. fetes, assemblies, cultural events) needs to be considered and may need to be restricted/risk assessed by the school.

Although NO school could guarantee a truly allergy-free environment for a student or staff member with an allergy, here at St Thomas More all food prepared in our canteen is done so in a Nut Free Environment.

Allergy UK and the national organisation, Anaphylaxis Campaign, believe that a 'whole school awareness of allergies' is the best approach. By understanding what to do if you have an allergic reaction or see someone else have one, risk can be minimised and situations can be promptly dealt with in the most appropriate way.

We would like to thank you for your cooperation and support in the above.

Best wishes,

Martin Bonner  
Head Teacher



**ST THOMAS MORE**  
CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM

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