

6 September 2011

Dear Parents

Farlington as a Nut-Free School - Guidelines for Pupils and Parents

Farlington School aspires to be a “nut-free” environment. No school can guarantee that there will never be any nuts on site, but our aim is to be a “nut-free” environment. We have girls and staff in the Farlington community who suffer allergic reactions of varying degrees of severity to a variety of nuts.

- Farlington has an anaphylaxis policy of which all staff and the parents of the girls concerned are aware. This is available on request to any other parent who would like to read it.
- In the two areas of critical concern: ie food preparation areas, the two school kitchens and the food technology class room, specific protocols are in place. These are kept under review.
- For other staff, pupils and parents the guidelines are simpler. **No foodstuff containing nuts as an ingredient should be brought into School, either for one’s own consumption or as a gift for anyone else.** For the avoidance of confusion, this includes pine nut kernels, chestnuts and coconut, in addition to the other commonly accepted “nuts”.
- We are not a chocolate-free zone nor a cake-free zone. Many packaged ready-prepared products contain advice such as “cannot guarantee nut-free” or “factory cannot guarantee nut-free”. This is increasingly common phraseology to protect against potential litigation. What staff, pupils and parents need to look for is whether or not nuts are used as an ingredient in foodstuffs. If nuts, as identified in the previous paragraph, are an ingredient then the item must not be brought into School.

Thank you for your cooperation in helping to keep Farlington as nut free as possible.

Yours sincerely

