17 July 2026

Smestow Academy
www.smestowacademy.co.uk

Dear Parents/Carers

Important – Update to Allergy and Dietary Information: BENEDICT'S LAW

As part of the implementation of Benedict's Law (medical allergies), we are reviewing all allergy and dietary information held on record for children within Matrix Academy Trust.

Parents/Guardians are responsible for informing their child's school of any medical conditions the child has and to ensure that this information is kept up to date.

To help us ensure that our records are accurate, up to date, and that we can continue to provide a safe environment for all children, we ask that you complete the following form to confirm, if applicable, your child's allergy and dietary information: Matrix Academy Trust - Pupil Dietary and Allergies Update (Benedicts Law 2026) (Copy) – Fill in form

Matrix Academy Trust – Diet, Dietary and Other Medical Allergies Form

- A form must be completed for every child in our school, even if they do not have any allergy/dietary needs.
- Please complete this form by **Friday 24th July 2026**.
- Only parents/guardians with legal parental responsibility can complete the form online. One form per child should be completed.

When providing allergy information, please note the following:

- A medical allergy should be supported by an appropriate HealthCare Plan or other relevant documentation completed by a qualified healthcare professional. Please ensure that an up-to-date HealthCare Plan is submitted to your child's school as soon as possible.
- We are particularly concerned with allergies to the 14 major allergens as these can result in significant health risks, including those that affect the immune system or may cause severe reactions.
- Food intolerances, dietary preferences, lifestyle choices and religious dietary requirements are recorded separately from medical allergies and should be clearly identified as such. We will, of course, try to accommodate these dietary preferences, but if you have any concerns, you may prefer to send your child to school with their own food/drink items.

Accurate information is essential to ensure that our staff can respond appropriately to medical needs and that our new system reflects the correct level of risk for each child. Please keep your child's school updated regarding all medical conditions, particularly if they change or worsen.

Thank you for your cooperation and support in helping us maintain the highest standards of safety and care for all students in our Trust.

Yours faithfully



Mr I Chamberlain
Headteacher