



1 September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we begin the year, we would like to share a few important reminders about allergy safety, mobile phones, smart watches and online safety.

Allergy Safety – Benedict's Law

The new allergy safety requirements reinforce the importance of having robust procedures in place to protect children with allergies. At Trotts Hill, we already have strong allergy safety procedures in place. All staff receive allergy awareness training, and we have clear systems for identifying and supporting pupils with allergies.

Please ensure that we are informed of any allergies or changes to your child's medical needs. If your child requires medication in school, they must have the correct, in-date medication available in school in order to attend. This is particularly important for children who have been prescribed an adrenaline auto-injector (AAI) or an inhaler. Please check that medication is in date and that we have all the necessary information.

As part of our commitment to keeping children with allergies safe, we continue to aim to be a nut-free school. We kindly ask all families to ensure that packed lunches and snacks do not contain nuts or products containing nuts.

We also do not allow birthday sweets, cakes or other food products from home to be distributed in school. This is because we cannot always verify ingredients or how food has been prepared, and therefore cannot fully eliminate the risk to children with allergies.

If you would like to celebrate your child's birthday with their class, we would love you to consider donating a book to the class instead – a thoughtful gift that everyone can enjoy together.

We ask parents not to hand out treats or gifts to children outside the school site. If you choose to do so, we ask that it is a non-edible item, such as a pencil or rubber.

Mobile phones and other devices

We already have strong procedures and clear expectations at Trotts Hill around online safety and the use of devices. We will continue to review these in line with updated guidance.

Children are expected to be phone-free during the school day and should not bring mobile phones, smart watches or other smart devices into school unless pre-agreed with school. Smart watches are not permitted, as they can access the internet, send messages, take photographs or record audio, creating safeguarding, privacy and distraction concerns.

In support of our children, we intend to make the school site a **mobile phone-free zone**. We ask all parents and carers to support us by keeping devices away whilst on the school site. This includes mobile phones, smart watches smart glasses etc. We thank you for your support in this.



Online safety

Online safety is a shared responsibility. As part of our annual arrangements, you will receive our Online Safety Agreement next week. We ask you to read this with your child and sign it to confirm your commitment to helping keep them safe online.

If your child uses devices at home, please talk regularly about what they are doing online, check age ratings, use parental controls where appropriate and set clear boundaries around screen time. Please remind children never to share personal information or passwords and, most importantly, to speak to a trusted adult if something online makes them feel worried or unsafe.

We will continue to teach online safety through our curriculum and share advice and guidance through our newsletter and website.

Please remember that social media platforms and online services have minimum age requirements, which should always be checked before allowing your child access. The Government has also announced plans to prevent children under 16 from accessing social media.

We also support the Smartphone-Free Childhood movement and encourage families to consider carefully whether primary-aged children need a smartphone or their own internet-enabled device. We believe children should have opportunities to play, talk, read, explore and develop relationships without the pressures and distractions of smartphones.

Thank you for continuing to work so closely with us. Together, we can help our children develop safe, healthy and balanced habits and ensure that every child at Trotts Hill is safe, happy and ready to learn.

Kind regards,



Mrs Evans
Headteacher



**Platinum
Award**
2024 - 2026



SCHOOL
MEMBER



**Artsmark
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