



Infiniti School

Pupil Allergy Policy

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1. Aims

This policy aims to:

- Set out our school's approach to allergy management, including reducing the risk of exposure and the procedures in place in case of allergic reaction
- Make clear how our school supports pupils with allergies to ensure their wellbeing and inclusion
- Promote and maintain allergy awareness among the school community

2. Legislation and guidance

This policy is based on the Department for Education (DfE)'s guidance on [allergies in schools](#) and [supporting pupils with medical conditions at school](#), the Department of Health and Social Care's guidance on [using emergency adrenaline auto-injectors in schools](#), and the following legislation:

- [The Food Information Regulations 2014](#)
- [The Food Information \(Amendment\) \(England\) Regulations 2019](#)

3. Roles and responsibilities

We take a whole-school approach to allergy awareness.

3.1 Allergy lead

The nominated allergy lead is Nadine Dix.

They're responsible for:

- Promoting and maintaining allergy awareness across our school community
- Recording and collating allergy and special dietary information for all relevant pupils.
- Ensuring:
 - All allergy information is up to date and readily available to relevant members of staff
 - All pupils with allergies have an allergy action plan completed by a medical professional

- All staff receive an appropriate level of allergy training
 - All staff are aware of the school's policy and procedures regarding allergies
 - Relevant staff are aware of what activities need an allergy risk assessment
- Keeping stock of the school's adrenaline auto-injectors (AAIs)
 - Regularly reviewing and updating the allergy policy

3.2 Medical officer/Student Support Officer

The medical officer is responsible for:

- Co-ordinating the paperwork and information from families
- Co-ordinating medication with families
- Checking spare AAIs are in date
- Any other appropriate tasks delegated by the allergy lead

3.3 Teaching and support staff

All teaching and support staff are responsible for:

- Promoting and maintaining allergy awareness among pupils
- Maintaining awareness of our allergy policy and procedures
- Being able to recognise the signs of severe allergic reactions and anaphylaxis
- Attending appropriate allergy training as required
- Being aware of specific pupils with allergies in their care
- Carefully considering the use of food or other potential allergens in lesson and activity planning
- Ensuring the wellbeing and inclusion of pupils with allergies

3.4 Parents/carers

Parents/carers are responsible for:

- Being aware of our school's allergy policy
- Providing the school with up-to-date details of their child's medical needs, dietary requirements, and any history of allergies, reactions and anaphylaxis
- If required, providing their child with 2 in-date adrenaline auto-injectors and any other medication, including inhalers, antihistamine etc., and making sure these are replaced in a timely manner
- Carefully considering the food they provide to their child as packed lunches and snacks, and trying to limit the number of allergens included
- Following the school's guidance on food brought in to be shared
- Updating the school on any changes to their child's condition

3.5 Pupils with allergies

These pupils are responsible for:

- Being aware of their allergens and the risks they pose
- Understanding how and when to use their adrenaline auto-injector
- If age-appropriate, carrying their adrenaline auto-injector on their person and only using it for its intended purpose

3.6 Pupils without allergies

These pupils are responsible for:

- Being aware of allergens and the risk they pose to their peers

Older pupils might also be expected to support their peers and staff in the case of an emergency.

4. Assessing risk

The school will conduct a risk assessment for any pupil at risk of anaphylaxis taking part in:

- Lessons such as food technology
- Science experiments involving foods
- Crafts using food packaging
- Off-site events and school trips
- Any other activities involving animals or food, such as animal handling experiences or baking

A risk assessment for any pupil at risk of an allergic reaction will also be carried out where a visitor requires a guide dog.

5. Managing risk

5.1 Hygiene procedures

- Pupils are reminded to wash their hands before and after eating
- Sharing of food is not allowed
- Pupils have their own named water bottles

5.2 Food restrictions

We acknowledge that it is impractical to enforce an allergen-free school. However, we would like to encourage pupils and staff to avoid certain high-risk foods to reduce the chances of someone experiencing a reaction. These foods include:

- Packaged nuts
- Cereal, granola or chocolate bars containing nuts
- Peanut butter or chocolate spreads containing nuts
- Peanut-based sauces, such as satay
- Sesame seeds and foods containing sesame seeds

If a pupil brings these foods into school, the food may be confiscated.

The school tuck shop will not sell food containing nuts or sesame seeds.

5.3 Insect bites/stings

When outdoors:

- Shoes should always be worn
- Food and drink should be covered

5.4 Animals

- All pupils will always wash hands after interacting with animals to avoid putting pupils with allergies at risk through later contact
- Pupils with animal allergies will not interact with animals

5.5 Support for mental health

Pupils with allergies will have additional support through:

- Pastoral care
- Regular check-ins with their class teacher.

5.6 Events and school trips

- For events, including ones that take place outside of the school, and school trips, no pupils with allergies will be excluded from taking part
- The school will plan accordingly for all events and school trips, and arrange for the staff members involved to be aware of pupils' allergies and to have received adequate training
- Appropriate measures will be taken in line with the schools AAI protocols for off-site events and school trips (see section 7.5).

6. Procedures for handling an allergic reaction

6.1 Register of pupils with AAls

- The school maintains a register of pupils who have been prescribed AAls or where a doctor has provided a written plan recommending AAls to be used in the event of anaphylaxis. The register includes:
 - Known allergens and risk factors for anaphylaxis
 - Whether a pupil has been prescribed AAl(s) (and if so, what type and dose)
 - Where a pupil has been prescribed an AAl, whether parental consent has been given for use of the spare AAl, which may be different to the personal AAl prescribed for the pupil
 - A photograph of each pupil to allow a visual check to be made.
- The register is kept in the school office and can be checked quickly by any member of staff as part of initiating an emergency response

6.2 Allergic reaction procedures

- As part of the whole-school awareness approach to allergies, all staff are trained in the school's allergic reaction procedure, and to recognise the signs of anaphylaxis and respond appropriately
- Staff are trained in the administration of AAls to minimise delays in pupil's receiving adrenaline in an emergency
- If a pupil has an allergic reaction, the staff member will initiate the school's emergency response plan, following the pupil's allergy action plan
 - If an AAl needs to be administered, a member of staff will use the pupil's own AAl, or if it is not available, a school one
- If the pupil has no allergy action plan, staff will follow the school's procedures on responding to allergy and, if needed, the school's normal emergency procedures

<p>Get in position</p> <p>If the person is conscious, lie them flat with their legs raised to assist in blood flow to the heart and vital organs.</p> <p>If they're having difficulty breathing, they can be propped up with legs stretched out straight.</p>	<p>Give adrenaline immediately</p> <p>If you or the person affected has been prescribed adrenaline (such as EpiPen®, Jext® or EURneffy®), use it straight away – adrenaline is the first-line treatment for anaphylaxis.</p> <p>Make a note of the time you give the first dose of adrenaline. If symptoms don't improve after five minutes, or symptoms get worse, give a second dose.</p>
<p>Call 999</p> <p>Call emergency services immediately after using your first dose of adrenaline and tell the operator it is "anaphylaxis" (ana-fil-ax-is).</p> <p>Give your exact location (What3Words can help if you are outside).</p>	<p>Do not move</p> <p>Stay in this position until help arrives. Do not stand up, walk or run, even if you start to feel better.</p> <p>Movement can make symptoms worse and cause a sudden drop in blood pressure.</p> <p>Stay with them until emergency services arrive.</p>

- A school AAI device will be used instead of the pupil's own AAI device if:
 - Medical authorisation and written parental consent have been provided, or
 - The pupil's own prescribed AAI(s) are not immediately available (for example, because they are broken, out-of-date, have misfired or been wrongly administered)
- If a pupil needs to be taken to hospital, staff will stay with the pupil until the parent/carer arrives, or accompany the pupil to hospital by ambulance
- If the allergic reaction is mild (e.g. skin rash, itching or sneezing), the pupil will be monitored and the parents/carers informed

7. Adrenaline auto-injectors (AAIs)

7.1 Purchasing of spare AAIs

The designated Allergy Lead is responsible for the procurement, storage, and monitoring of all Adrenaline Auto-Injectors (AAIs) within the school. This includes ensuring that AAIs are:

- **Sourced appropriately:** AAIs will be obtained from a local pharmacy or NHS-approved supplier to ensure authenticity and safety. The quantity of AAIs required
- **Sufficient in quantity:** The number of AAIs kept in the school will meet the needs of pupils at risk of anaphylaxis, as well as comply with government recommendations for additional emergency doses.
- **Consistent in brand:** The school will purchase a single brand of AAI to prevent confusion in an emergency situation.
- **Correctly dosed:** AAIs will be selected according to the Resuscitation Council UK's age-based dosing criteria. Staff will ensure that each pupil receives the dose appropriate for their age and weight.
 - (For children age 6-12 years: a dose of 300 microgram (0.3 milligram) of adrenaline is used (e.g. using an EpiPen (0.3mg), Emerade 300 or Jext 300 microgram device).
 - For teenagers age 12+ years: a dose of 300 or 500 microgram (Emerade 500) can be used.

7.2 Storage (of both spare and prescribed AAIs)

The allergy lead will make sure all AAIs are:

- Stored at room temperature (in line with manufacturer's guidelines), protected from direct sunlight and extremes of temperature
- Kept in a safe and suitably central location to which all staff have access at all times, but is out of the reach and sight of children
- **Not** locked away, but accessible and available for use at all times
- **Not** located more than 5 minutes away from where they may be needed

Spare AAI's will be kept separate from any pupil's own prescribed AAI, and clearly labelled to avoid confusion. These will be kept in the school office.

7.3 Maintenance (of spare AAI's)

Laura Walton and Nadine Dix are responsible for checking monthly that:

- The AAI's are present and in date
- Replacement AAI's are obtained when the expiry date is near

7.4 Disposal

AAI's can only be used once. Once an AAI has been used, it will be disposed of in line with the manufacturer's instructions.

7.5 Use of AAI's off school premises

- Pupils at risk of anaphylaxis who are able to administer their own AAI's should carry their own AAI with them on school trips and off-site events
- For any pupil at risk of anaphylaxis participating in a school trip or off-site event, the school will carry out a risk assessment in line with standard safeguarding and health and safety procedures.

Key arrangements include:

- Pupils at risk of anaphylaxis must bring their personal AAI with them at all times during the trip.
- Staff trained in the administration of AAI's will accompany the trip and be responsible for managing any allergic emergencies.
- Spare AAI's obtained for emergency use may be taken on trips, where considered appropriate following the risk assessment, to provide an additional safeguard.
- The Allergy Lead will ensure that spare AAI's are stored safely and are accessible to trained staff during the trip.
- All arrangements will be documented in the trip risk assessment, including which staff are trained and which pupils require access to AAI's.

7.6 Emergency anaphylaxis kit

The school holds an emergency anaphylaxis kit. This includes:

- Spare AAI's
- Instructions for the use of AAI's
- Instructions on storage
- Manufacturer's information
- A checklist of injectors, identified by batch number and expiry date with monthly checks recorded
- A note of arrangements for replacing injectors
- A list of pupils to whom the AAI can be administered
- A record of when AAI's have been administered

8. Training

The school is committed to training all staff in allergy response. This includes:

- How to reduce and prevent the risk of allergic reactions
- How to spot the signs of allergic reactions (including anaphylaxis)
- The importance of acting quickly in the case of anaphylaxis
- Where AAIs are kept on the school site, and how to access them
- How to administer AAIs
- The wellbeing and inclusion implications of allergies

Training will be carried out annually by the allergy lead.

9. Links to other policies

This policy links to the following policies and procedures:

- Health and safety policy
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions policy
- School food policy