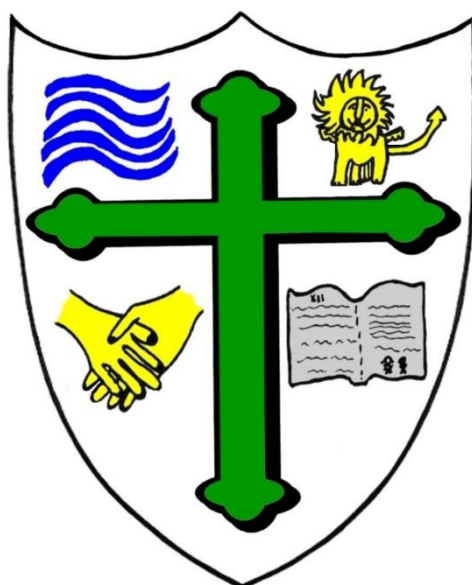


Highcliffe St Mark Primary School



Supporting Pupils with Allergies

Reviewed (date)	
Reviewed by (name)	Claire Barker
Approved by Governors (if applicable)	To be ratified at next meeting
Review due (date)	September 2027

Allergy Safety Policy

All headings in green italic font size 14

This policy has been developed in accordance with:

- Benedict's Law and the DfE statutory guidance "Allergy Safety in Schools" (2026);
- Supporting Pupils at School with Medical Conditions;
- Children and Families Act 2014;
- Equality Act 2010;
- Health and Safety at Work Act 1974;
- Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE).

The School and Pre-School recognise that allergies can be serious, life-threatening medical conditions and are committed to creating a culture in which children with allergies are safe, included, respected and supported.

We acknowledge that allergy management is a whole-school responsibility and that allergic reactions can occur anywhere on site, including classrooms, dining areas, playgrounds, educational visits and extra-curricular activities. Staff will take all reasonable steps to reduce risk whilst recognising that it is not possible to guarantee a completely allergen-free environment. [\[gov.uk\]](https://www.gov.uk), [\[allergyschool.org.uk\]](https://allergyschool.org.uk)

Key Personnel

The designated person with overall responsibility for implementation of this policy is:

Headteacher: Claire Barker

The person responsible for developing and reviewing Allergy Management Plans and Individual Healthcare Plans is:

Medical Needs Lead: Jacqui Fuller

The Governor responsible for oversight of allergy management arrangements is:

Governor: Charlie Faulkner-Smith

The School's Senior Leadership Team will ensure sufficient trained staff are available at all times to support pupils with allergies and respond effectively to allergic emergencies.

Aims

Our aims are:

- To safeguard pupils with diagnosed and suspected allergies.
- To ensure staff can recognise and respond promptly to allergic reactions and anaphylaxis.
- To provide an inclusive environment where pupils with allergies are fully involved in school life.
- To minimise allergen risks across the school environment.
- To ensure all staff receive appropriate allergy awareness training.
- To maintain effective communication with parents, healthcare professionals and pupils.
- To comply with all current statutory guidance and legal requirements.
- To ensure emergency medication is readily available and accessible.
- To learn from allergy incidents and near-misses to continuously improve practice. [\[gov.uk\]](https://www.gov.uk), [\[allergyschool.org.uk\]](https://allergyschool.org.uk)

The Governing Body Will

The Governing Body will:

- Ensure the school has and publishes a stand-alone Allergy Safety Policy.
- Review this policy annually.
- Monitor compliance with statutory requirements.
- Ensure suitable arrangements exist for pupils with allergies.
- Ensure appropriate staff training is provided.
- Ensure spare Adrenaline Auto-Injectors (AAIs) are maintained in accordance with current guidance.
- Monitor allergy incidents and near misses.
- Ensure equality and inclusion for pupils with allergies.
- Ensure arrangements extend to school trips, clubs and enrichment activities. [\[gov.uk\]](https://www.gov.uk), [\[anaphylaxis.org.uk\]](https://anaphylaxis.org.uk)

Healthcare Plans

An Healthcare Plan (HCP) will be developed for pupils with diagnosed allergies where appropriate.

Plans will include:

- Allergens to be avoided.
- Typical signs and symptoms.
- Medication prescribed.
- Emergency procedures.
- Staff responsibilities.
- Contact details for parents/carers.
- Arrangements for educational visits and extra-curricular activities.

Plans will be developed in partnership with parents and relevant healthcare professionals and reviewed:

- At least annually;
- Following any allergic reaction;
- Following any change in medical advice or treatment. [\[benedictblythe.com\]](https://www.benedictblythe.com), [\[gov.uk\]](https://www.gov.uk)

Roles and Responsibilities

Parents and Carers

Parents and carers are responsible for:

- Informing the school of any diagnosed allergy.
- Providing up-to-date medical information.
- Supplying prescribed medication in date and clearly labelled.
- Providing replacement medication before expiry.
- Informing the school promptly of any changes to medical advice.
- Working collaboratively with the school to develop and review management plans.

Parents should not assume staff are aware of changes unless they have notified the school directly.

Headteacher

The Headteacher will ensure:

- Effective implementation of this policy.
- Suitable staffing arrangements are maintained.
- Training is completed and refreshed annually.
- Allergy incidents are investigated and recorded.
- Appropriate communication takes place with families.
- Risk assessments are completed where required.

Designated Medical Lead and Admin Staff

The designated lead will:

- Maintain allergy records.
- Develop and review Individual Allergy Management Plans.
- Coordinate training.
- Ensure medication storage arrangements are appropriate.
- Monitor expiry dates of emergency medication.
- Record incidents and near misses.
- Liaise with healthcare professionals where necessary.

All Staff

All staff are responsible for:

- Attending allergy awareness training.
- Understanding the needs of pupils in their care.
- Following Individual Allergy Management Plans.
- Recognising symptoms of allergic reactions.
- Acting immediately in an emergency.
- Reporting concerns, incidents and near misses.

All staff members who supervise pupils, including lunchtime staff, office staff, breakfast club staff, after-school club staff and **regular volunteers**, will receive allergy awareness training. [\[gov.uk\]](https://www.gov.uk), [\[allergyschool.org.uk\]](https://allergyschool.org.uk)

Staff Training

The school will ensure all staff receive annual allergy training covering:

- Understanding food and non-food allergies.
- Recognising allergic reactions.
- Recognising anaphylaxis.
- Use of Adrenaline Auto-Injectors.
- Emergency procedures.
- Incident reporting.
- Risk reduction strategies.

Training records will be maintained and monitored by the designated lead. [\[gov.uk\]](https://www.gov.uk), [\[anaphylaxis.org.uk\]](https://www.anaphylaxis.org.uk)

Reducing Risk Across School

The School and Pre-School will:

- Promote good handwashing practices.
- Promote effective cleaning of eating surfaces.
- Consider allergens during curriculum activities.
- Assess risks linked to food-based learning activities.
- Communicate effectively with catering providers.
- Manage allergen risks during celebrations and special events.
- Encourage pupils not to share food.
- Promote awareness and understanding amongst all pupils.

The school does not operate as an allergen-free environment but will take reasonable and proportionate measures to reduce risk.

Catering and Food Provision

Where meals are provided, the school will:

- Work closely with catering providers.
- Ensure allergen information is available.
- Communicate known allergies to relevant catering staff.

- Follow food safety and allergen management procedures.
- Support pupils in making safe food choices where required.

Emergency Medication

The School and Pre-School will:

- Maintain spare, in-date Adrenaline Auto-Injectors (AAIs).
- Ensure AAIs are readily accessible and not locked away.
- Keep named pupil AAIs readily available.
- Undertake regular checks of medication.
- Record all checks and replacements.

Spare AAIs may be used in accordance with national guidance during an emergency.

[\[gov.uk\]](https://www.gov.uk), [\[allergyschool.org.uk\]](https://allergyschool.org.uk)

Emergency Procedures

Any suspicion of anaphylaxis will be treated as a medical emergency.

Staff will:

1. Administer an AAI immediately if indicated by the pupil's healthcare plan or symptoms.
2. Call 999 and request an ambulance, stating "ANAPHYLAXIS".
3. Contact parents/carers.
4. Administer a second AAI if clinically required and available.
5. Ensure the pupil is continuously monitored until emergency services arrive.

No child experiencing anaphylaxis will be sent home before medical assessment.

Educational Visits and Off-Site Activities

Risk assessments will include allergy considerations.

The school will ensure:

- Medication accompanies the pupil.
- Trained staff are present.
- Emergency procedures are understood.
- Allergens are considered during planning.

- Pupils with allergies are fully included wherever reasonably possible.

Inclusion and Anti-Bullying

Pupils with allergies have the right to participate fully in school life.

The school will not tolerate:

- Bullying relating to allergies.
- Deliberate exposure to allergens.
- Teasing regarding medical needs.

Any concerns will be managed through the Relationship and Behaviour Policy and Safeguarding Procedures where appropriate.

Recording, Monitoring and Learning

The school will maintain records of:

- Allergic reactions.
- Use of AAls.
- Near misses.
- Training completed.
- Medication checks.

Following any significant incident, a review will be undertaken to identify lessons learned and any improvements required. [\[gov.uk\]](http://gov.uk), [\[allergyschool.org.uk\]](http://allergyschool.org.uk)

Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed annually or sooner if:

- National guidance changes;
- Legislation changes;
- A serious allergy incident occurs;
- Lessons learned indicate a review is required.

Appendix 1

Documents Associated with this Policy

- Individual Allergy Management Plan

- Individual Healthcare Plan
- Emergency Allergy Action Plan
- Spare AAI Monitoring Log
- Allergy Incident/Near Miss Report Form
- Staff Training Record