

Christ Church CoE Primary School

Allergy Safety Policy

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1. Statement of Intent

Christ Church C of E Primary School is committed to providing a safe, inclusive and supportive environment for all pupils, staff and visitors with allergies. We recognise that allergies can range from mild reactions to life-threatening anaphylaxis and that effective management is essential to safeguard health, wellbeing and educational participation.

This policy outlines arrangements for allergy awareness, risk management, emergency response and support for pupils with allergies in accordance with statutory guidance for schools.

2. Responsibilities of the Governing Body / Trustees

The Governing Body / Trustees will:

- Ensure the school has an effective Allergy Safety Policy.
- Review the policy at least annually.
- Ensure sufficient resources are available to implement the policy.
- Monitor incidents and lessons learned from allergy-related events.

3. Responsibilities of the Head Teacher

The Head Teacher will:

- Ensure implementation of the Allergy Safety Policy.
- Appoint a Designated Allergy Lead.
- Ensure staff receive appropriate training.
- Ensure emergency procedures are maintained and regularly reviewed.

4. Responsibilities of the Designated Allergy Lead

The Designated Allergy Lead will:

- Maintain records of pupils with allergies.
- Coordinate training and awareness activities.
- Monitor compliance with Individual Healthcare Plans (IHPs).
- Review allergy incidents, near misses and actions arising.
- Liaise with parents, healthcare professionals and catering providers.

Name of Designated Allergy Lead:	L Harrison, Deputies: L Burn, D Bemment-Morris

5. Responsibilities of all Staff

All staff will:

- Understand this policy.
- Attend allergy awareness training.
- Follow Individual Healthcare Plans (IHPs).
- Take reasonable steps to reduce exposure to allergens.
- Know how to recognise and respond to allergic reactions and anaphylaxis.

6. Allergy Awareness and Training

The school will provide annual allergy awareness and emergency response training for all staff, including:

- Teaching and support staff.
- Lunchtime supervisors.
- Office staff.
- After-school club staff.
- Catering staff.
- Regular volunteers.
- Supply and agency staff, peripatetic staff and other temporary staff who are present when pupils are on site.

Training will cover:

- Understanding allergies and anaphylaxis.
- Common allergens.
- Recognition of allergic reaction symptoms.
- Use of Adrenaline Auto-Injectors (AAIs).
- Emergency procedures.
- Measures to reduce allergen exposure.
- Reporting incidents and near misses.

All new staff will receive allergy awareness and emergency response training during induction. The school will confirm that supply, cover and other pupil-facing temporary staff have received appropriate training and know the relevant pupils, plans and emergency medication locations before taking responsibility for pupils.

6a. Training Records

The Designated Allergy Lead will maintain a record of all allergy awareness and emergency response training undertaken by staff. Records will include:

- Date of training completed.
- Name of training provider.
- Staff members who attended.
- Date refresher training is due.

Training records are held by / location:	NATIONAL COLLEGE

Training records will be retained and made available for monitoring, audit and inspection purposes. The school will ensure that all relevant staff remain in date with allergy awareness training and that training compliance is reviewed annually.

7. Promoting Wellbeing

The school recognises that living with allergies may cause anxiety for pupils and families. We will:

- Foster an inclusive and supportive environment.
- Encourage pupils to speak openly about concerns.
- Promote understanding of allergies among pupils.
- Take immediate action against bullying or discrimination related to medical conditions or allergies.

8. Identification of Pupils, Staff and Visitors with Allergies

The school will maintain clear procedures for identifying and supporting pupils, staff and visitors with known allergies. Information regarding known allergens, allergy severity, prescribed medication and emergency requirements will be collected, recorded and reviewed regularly.

8a. Identification of Pupils with Allergies

The school will:

- Gather allergy information during the admissions process.
- Review and update allergy information through annual data collection exercises.
- The school will work in partnership with parents/carers, pupils, previous educational settings and relevant healthcare professionals to obtain accurate and up-to-date information.
- Parents/carers are responsible for informing the school of any changes to a pupil's medical condition or allergy status.
- Copies of Individual Healthcare Plan (IHPs) and supporting medical documentation will be requested where applicable.
- All allergy-related records and medical documentation will be stored securely and handled in accordance with data protection requirements.

The school will maintain an up-to-date register of pupils with allergies including:

- Known allergens and triggers.
- Severity of allergy and risk of anaphylaxis.
- Details of prescribed medication, including Adrenaline Auto-Injectors (AAIs).
- Location of emergency medication.
- Details of any Individual Healthcare Plan.
- Emergency contact information.

A list of pupils with known allergies is available/displayed where food may be served or handled (e.g. food technology, science and art). The register must be kept in an area accessible to staff only.

For pupils joining the school at the start of an academic year, allergy management arrangements will be established before the child begins attendance wherever possible. For pupils joining during the school year, every effort will be made to implement appropriate arrangements within two weeks of receiving the relevant information.

8b. Identification of Staff and Visitors with Allergies

The school recognises that staff and visitors may also have allergies that require consideration. Staff are encouraged to inform the school of any allergies that may affect their health and safety whilst on site. Appropriate support and reasonable adjustments will be considered where necessary.

Visitors attending the school will be asked, where reasonably practicable, to inform the school of any significant allergies, particularly where food or refreshments may be provided. The school

will take reasonable steps to minimise known allergy risks and support the safety and wellbeing of all individuals on site.

9. Individual Healthcare (IHPs)

An Individual Healthcare Plan will be developed where a pupil:

- Has an allergy that significantly affects participation in school activities.
- Requires specific arrangements beyond normal school procedures.
- Has prescribed emergency medication.
- Is at risk of anaphylaxis.

Plans will include:

- Known allergens.
- Symptoms and triggers.
- Emergency procedures.
- Medication requirements.
- Roles and responsibilities.
- Details of any reasonable adjustments.

Plans will be reviewed annually, following an incident or sooner if needs change.

Where a healthcare professional has issued an Allergy Action Plan or Asthma Action Plan, it will be attached to or referenced in the IHP. Receipt of an updated action plan or medication instructions will prompt review of the IHP and communication of the changes to relevant staff.

A template Individual Healthcare Plan (IHP) is available at: Allergy safety in schools - GOV.UK

Individual Healthcare Plans (IHPs) are held by / location:	MEDICAL TRACKER

10. Minimising Risk

The school will take proportionate measures to reduce exposure to known allergens. These may include:

Food Provided by the School:

- Providing allergen information for meals.

- Working with catering providers to manage risks.
- Following food safety and allergen management procedures.

The school and catering provider will agree how allergens and cross-contact risks are checked during preparation and serving, how pupils with known food allergies are identified at mealtimes, and how accurate allergen information is made available to families and pupils.

Food Brought into School:

- Informing parents of allergy-related requirements.
- Discouraging food sharing between pupils.

Food, utensils and containers should not be shared or traded where this presents an allergy risk. Staff will check ingredients and seek parental engagement before offering food brought in for celebrations or activities to a pupil with a known food allergy.

- Considering restrictions where individual risk assessments identify a significant risk.

Classroom Activities:

Staff planning activities will consider allergen risks in:

- Cooking activities.
- Science lessons.
- Craft activities.
- Music activities.
- Animal encounters.
- School events and celebrations.

Environmental Allergens:

Where pupils have known allergies to environmental, contact or airborne allergens, reasonable control measures will be implemented based on individual circumstances.

11. Educational Visits and Residential Trips

The school is committed to ensuring pupils with allergies can participate fully and safely in educational visits. Prior to visits:

- Risk assessments will be undertaken.
- Relevant staff will be briefed.

- Medication and Individual Healthcare Plans (IHPs) will accompany the pupil / member of staff.
- Emergency arrangements will be confirmed.

Pupils at risk of anaphylaxis must have access to their prescribed medication and trained staff must be present.

Trip planning will check that both prescribed adrenaline devices are accessible, that the pupil's action plan and trained staff accompany the group, and whether a pair of spare AAIs should be taken without leaving the school site without suitable cover. If medication is missing, staff will contact parents and the allergy lead to agree safe arrangements and preserve the pupil's participation wherever possible.

12. Medication and Adrenaline Auto-Injectors (AAIs)

Individual prescribed AAIs should have rapid access to them at all times. The school will:

- Ensure medication is readily available during lessons, breaks, lunchtimes, PE activities, visits and educational trips.
- Location of prescribed AAIs will be recorded within Individual Healthcare Plans (IHPs)
- Maintain records of prescribed medication.
- Check expiry dates regularly.
- Inform parents when replacements are required.

Pupils prescribed adrenaline should have access to both prescribed devices at all times. The IHP will specify whether the pupil carries them or where staff keep them, the arrangements for the journey home, and how staff check availability and expiry across the whole school day and off-site activities.

13. Spare Adrenaline Auto-Injectors (AAIs)

The school will maintain spare emergency AAIs in line with current DfE guidance and any applicable regulations. These supplement, and do not replace, a pupil's two prescribed devices.

Spare AAIs will:

- Be stored securely but not locked away.
- Be clearly labelled.

Be stocked and stored in pairs, with age-appropriate doses. For a primary school, DfE guidance indicates a pair of 150 microgram AAIs for children under six and a pair of 300 microgram AAIs for older pupils, subject to checking the school population and current guidance.

- Be easily accessible within five minutes in an emergency.

The devices will be brought to the person and available for administration within five minutes wherever they are on site; the school will check this for classrooms, dining areas, playgrounds and sports areas, and consider extra sets where needed.

- Be checked regularly for expiry dates.
- Be replaced promptly after use or expiry.

The Designated Allergy Lead will arrange documented checks of stock, dose, expiry and access, prompt replacement after use or expiry, and safe disposal of used AAIs as sharps.

Emergency medication locations will be communicated to all staff. School has **1 spare 150mcg (children up to 30kg or 6 years and under)** and **1 spare 300mcg (adults and children over 30kg or 6 years and above)** , which is located as stated below:



Spare Adrenaline Auto-Injectors (AAIs) are held at location:	**MAIN SCHOOL OFFICE**
Name of person for stock check:	B Harris L Harrison (to check)

14. Emergency Response

If an individual experiences an allergic reaction:

1. Staff will follow arrangements in the Individual Healthcare Plan.

2. If anaphylaxis is suspected, keep the person where they are, call for help and do not leave them alone. Lay them flat with legs raised; if breathing is difficult, they may sit with legs outstretched for the shortest necessary time. Bring adrenaline to them and administer it without delay, aiming for within five minutes; do not wait to call 999 first. Use their prescribed device if available, otherwise a suitable spare AAI if their device is unavailable, has failed, or they have no prescribed device. Follow their healthcare professional's action plan and the device instructions. Record the time; if symptoms have not improved after five minutes, give a second device. Do not allow the person to stand or walk. Start CPR if they are unresponsive and not breathing normally.
3. Call 999 immediately and say "anaphylaxis", requesting an ambulance. Do this alongside prompt adrenaline administration; do not delay adrenaline while making the call. The person must be assessed in hospital even if symptoms improve.
4. Parents/carers will be informed as soon as possible.
5. The incident will be recorded and reviewed.

All suspected cases of anaphylaxis will be treated as a medical emergency.

For a mild to moderate allergic reaction, follow the individual action plan, stay with and observe the person for at least 60 minutes, and escalate promptly if symptoms develop or anaphylaxis is suspected. In an emergency, do not delay life-saving use of a spare AAI while checking for advance consent; seek advance consent as good practice when preparing IHPs.

15. Recording and Reporting Incidents

The school will record:

- Allergic reactions.
- Use of emergency medication.
- Hospital admissions.
- Near misses.
- Identified risks and corrective actions.

Incidents will be reviewed to identify improvements to procedures and reduce future risks.

The record will include the symptoms, possible trigger, time and location, medication and dose used, response, ambulance involvement, people informed, and follow-up actions. Pupils and parents may also report a reaction or near miss recognised after the pupil has gone home. Serious incidents and near misses will prompt review of the IHP and this policy where relevant.

16. Information Sharing and Confidentially

The school will manage allergy-related information in accordance with UK GDPR requirements. Information will be shared only with staff who need it to safeguard the individual and enable effective emergency response.

The dignity and privacy of pupils and staff will always be respected.

17. Communication and Awareness

This policy will be:

- Published on the school website.
- Available on request from the school office.
- Shared with staff during training.
- Referenced during induction for new staff.

The school will actively promote allergy awareness among pupils in an age-appropriate manner to support understanding, inclusion and safety.

18. Related Policies and Further Information

- Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy
- Health and Safety Policy
- Educational Visits Policy
- Safeguarding Policy
- Data Protection Policy
- Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Policy

This policy has been completed in conjunction with the DfE Allergy Safety in Schools Guidance and accompanying documents, available at: Allergy safety in schools - GOV.UK

19. Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed annually, or sooner following any significant allergy-related incident, near miss, legislative change or updated guidance.

The review will consider incidents, near misses, feedback from pupils and families with allergies, training records, medication access checks and changes to legislation or DfE guidance. The governing body will record approval and the next review date.