



Allergy Policy

Date: July 2026

Review date: July 2027

Policy Changes

Date	Actions
July 2026	New policy

Health and Safety Leader

Date	Leader

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Mission Statement

At Red Lane we believe that all our children can achieve, becoming successful future citizens that contribute positively to a society in which all members are equally valued.

High aspirations, high motivation and high outcomes for all, ensure that achievement gaps wherever they exist are narrowed in order to improve pupils' life choices and future prospects.

We strive for all of our children to be safe, feel valued, develop resilience and continually learn within our nurturing and supportive community.

At Red Lane, our children BELIEVE, ACHIEVE and SUCCEED!

1. Aims

The aims of our first aid policy are to:

- Ensure the health and safety of all staff, pupils and visitors
- Ensure that staff and governors are aware of their responsibilities with regards to health and safety
- Provide a framework for responding to an incident and recording and reporting the outcomes

2. Legislation and guidance

This policy has been put together using advice and guidance from Anaphylaxis UK and Allergy UK in light of the recent information to schools regarding "Benedict's Law."

[Benedict's Law - Benedict Blythe Foundation](#)

[Benedict's Law: New Allergy Safety Requirements 2026 for Schools | Anaphylaxis UK](#)

[Stronger protections for children with allergies in school - GOV.UK](#)

This policy sets out how the **BASE Multi Academy Trust Schools** (Red Lane CP School, Masefield School and Johnson Fold CP School) will support pupils with allergies, to ensure they are safe and are not disadvantaged in any way whilst taking part in school life.

3. Roles and responsibilities

3.1 Appointed person(s) and first aiders

The school's appointed Health & Safety persons are Rhian Driver and Tracy Cornick. They are responsible for:

- Taking charge when someone is injured or becomes ill
- Ensuring there is an adequate supply of AAs (adrenaline auto-injectors)

3.2 The Trust Board

The Academy Trust Board has ultimate responsibility for health and safety matters in the school, but delegates operational matters and day-to-day tasks to the Head of School and staff members. The named Governors for Safeguarding and Health & Safety will all also conduct the required training – **Margaret Tuckley, Doug Overbury & Jenny Walsh**

3.4 The Head of School

The Head of School is responsible for the implementation of this policy, including:

- Ensuring that all staff are trained (provided by Dukefields) and renewed annually.

- Ensuring all staff are aware of first aid procedures
- Ensuring appropriate Healthcare plans and risk assessments are completed and appropriate measures are put in place
- Ensuring that adequate supplies of AAI (adrenaline auto-injectors) are kept in school.
- Reporting specified incidents to the HSE when necessary (see section 6) and keeping a record of any incidents or near misses.

3.5 Staff

- All staff will complete anaphylaxis training. Training is provided for all staff on a yearly basis and on an ad-hoc basis for any new members of staff.
- Staff must be aware of the pupils in their care (regular or cover classes) who have known allergies as an allergic reaction could occur at any time and not just at mealtimes. Any food-related activities must be supervised with due caution.
- Staff leading school trips will ensure they carry all relevant emergency supplies. Trip leaders will check that all pupils with medical conditions, including allergies, carry their medication. Pupils unable to produce their required medication will not be able to attend the excursion.
- The First Aider for Administering Medicines will ensure that the up-to-date Allergy Action Plan is kept with the pupil's medication. This will be overseen by the Headteacher.
- It is the parent's responsibility to ensure all medication is in date however The First Aider for Administering Medicines will check medication kept at school on a termly basis and send a reminder to parents if medication is approaching expiry.
- Office staff keep a register of pupils who have been prescribed an adrenaline auto-injector (AAI) and a record of use of any AAI(s) and emergency treatment given will be completed by the First Aider for Administering Medicines.

3.6 Parent Responsibilities

- On entry to the school, it is the parent's responsibility to inform office staff of any allergies. This information should include all previous serious allergic reactions, history of anaphylaxis and details of all prescribed medication.
- Parents are to supply a copy of their child's Allergy Action Plan (BSACI plans preferred) to school. If they do not currently have an Allergy Action Plan this should be developed as soon as possible in collaboration with a healthcare professional e.g. School nurse/GP/allergy specialist.
- Parents are responsible for ensuring any required medication is supplied, in date and replaced as necessary.
- Parents are requested to keep the school up to date with any changes in allergy management. The Allergy Action Plan will be kept updated accordingly.

3.7 Pupil responsibilities

- Pupils are encouraged to have a good awareness of their symptoms and to let an adult know as soon as they suspect they are having an allergic reaction.
- Pupils who are trained and confident to administer their own AAIs will be encouraged to take responsibility for carrying them on their person at all times

4. Allergy Action Plan

Allergy action plans are designed to function as individual healthcare plans for children with food allergies, providing medical and parental consent for schools to administer medicines in the event of an allergic reaction, including consent to administer a spare adrenaline autoinjector.

BASE Academy recommends using the *British Society of Allergy and Clinical Immunology (BSACI) Allergy Action Plans* to ensure continuity. This is a national plan that has been agreed by the BSACI, Anaphylaxis UK and Allergy UK. It is the parent/carer's responsibility to complete the allergy action plan with help from a healthcare professional (e.g. GP/School Nurse/Allergy Specialist) and provide this to the school.

5. Equipment

A typical anaphylaxis kit in our school will include the following:

- 2 Adrenaline Auto injector epipens – 0.15mg for children age 6 and under
 - 0.3mg .for children age 6 and above

AAI kits are stored in:

- The first aid room (KS2)
- KS1 staff room

Supplies are checked termly and details are recorded. The checks are carried out and recorded by Tracy Cornick.

6. Supply, storage and care of medication

Depending on their level of understanding and competence, pupils will be encouraged to take responsibility for and to carry their own two AAls on them at all times (in a suitable bag/container).

For younger children or those not ready to take responsibility for their own medication, there should be an anaphylaxis kit which is kept safely, not locked away and **accessible to all staff**.

Medication should be stored in a suitable container and clearly labelled with the pupil's name. The pupil's medication storage container should contain:

- Two AAls i.e. EpiPen® or Jext® or Emerade®
- An up-to-date allergy action plan
- Antihistamine as tablets or syrup (if included on allergy action plan)
- Spoon if required
- Asthma inhaler (if included on allergy action plan).

It is the responsibility of the child's parents to ensure that the anaphylaxis kit is up-to-date and clearly labelled, however the administrator responsible for administering medication (Tracy Cornick), will check medication kept at school on a termly basis and send a reminder to parents if medication is approaching expiry.

Parents can subscribe to expiry alerts for the relevant AAls their child is prescribed, to make sure they can get replacement devices in good time.

Older children and medication

Older children, whenever possible, should assume responsibility for their emergency kit under the guidance of their parents. This will be noted on the Healthcare plan. However, symptoms of anaphylaxis can come on **very suddenly**, so school staff need to be prepared to administer medication if the young person cannot.

Storage

AAIs should be stored at room temperature, protected from direct sunlight and temperature extremes.

Disposal

AAIs are single use only and must be disposed of as sharps. Used AAIs should be given to ambulance paramedics on arrival.

'Spare' adrenaline auto-injectors in school

Red Lane Primary School has purchased spare AAIs for emergency use in children who are risk of anaphylaxis, but their own devices are not available or not working (e.g. because they are out of date).

These are stored in a **XXXXXXX**, clearly labelled '**Emergency Anaphylaxis Adrenaline Pen**', kept safely, not locked away and accessible and known to all staff.

Red Lane Primary School holds 4 spare pens which are kept in the following location/s:-

- The first aid room (KS2)
- KS1 staff room

Written parental permission for use of the spare AAIs is included in the pupil's allergy action plan.

If anaphylaxis is suspected in a child who is undiagnosed, call the emergency services and state you suspect ANAPHYLAXIS. Follow advice from them as to whether administration of the spare AAI is appropriate.

6. Record-keeping and reporting

6.1 First aid and accident forms

- An accident form will be completed by the first aider and any relevant responders or witnesses on the same day or as soon as possible after an incident resulting in an injury
- As much detail as possible should be supplied when reporting an accident, including all of the information included in the accident form
- Records held in the first aid and accident book will be retained by the school for a minimum of 3 years, in accordance with regulation 25 of the Social Security (Claims and Payments) Regulations 1979, and then securely disposed of
- Analysis of all incidents is carried out at least half termly in order to identify trends and any possible courses of action
- For any individuals, where additional support is required, a Pupil based risk assessment will be carried out, together with a Health Care Plan and PEEP where deemed necessary.

6.2 Reporting to the HSE

The school will seek advice from [AW Safety Management](#), the school's named advisor for Health and Safety and will keep a record of any accident which results in a reportable injury, disease, or dangerous occurrence as defined in the RIDDOR 2013 legislation (regulations 4, 5, 6 and 7).

[AW Safety Management](#) will report these on behalf of and support the school with submission and any subsequent investigation from the Health and Safety Executive as soon as is reasonably practicable and in any event within 10 days of the incident.

Reportable injuries, diseases or dangerous occurrences include:

- Death
- Specified injuries, which are:
 - Fractures, other than to fingers, thumbs and toes
 - Amputations
 - Any injury likely to lead to permanent loss of sight or reduction in sight

- Any crush injury to the head or torso causing damage to the brain or internal organs
- Serious burns (including scalding)
- Any scalding requiring hospital treatment
- Any loss of consciousness caused by head injury or asphyxia
- Any other injury arising from working in an enclosed space which leads to hypothermia or heat-induced illness, or requires resuscitation or admittance to hospital for more than 24 hours
- Injuries where an employee is away from work or unable to perform their normal work duties for more than 7 consecutive days (not including the day of the incident)
- Where an accident leads to someone being taken to hospital
- Near-miss events that do not result in an injury, but could have done. Examples of near-miss events relevant to schools include, but are not limited to:
 - The accidental release or escape of any substance that may cause a serious injury or damage to health
 - An electrical short circuit or overload causing a fire or explosion

Information on how to make a RIDDOR report is available here: <http://www.hse.gov.uk/riddor/report.htm>

6.3 Notifying parents

Parents/carers will be informed of all head injuries, by means of a wristband as a visual indicator that first aid has been administered and that the incident has been recorded – Red to indicate a minor head bump so child can be monitored for any delayed concussion and yellow for all other minor facial injuries for example scratches where caught by accident with an object. For any other minor injury such as a scrape, graze, minor bump, parents will be informed at the end of the day by the staff in class.

For anything of a more serious nature we will contact parent immediately by telephone.

6.4 Reporting to Ofsted and child protection agencies

The Head of School will notify Ofsted of any serious accident, illness or injury to, or death of, a pupil while in the school's care. This will happen as soon as is reasonably practicable, and no later than 14 days after the incident.

The Head of School will also notify Bolton's Safeguarding Children Board of any serious accident or injury to, or the death of, a pupil while in the school's care.

7. Training

The named staff members (Miss Cartwright and Mrs Strickland) are responsible for co-ordinating staff anaphylaxis training. Mrs Robbins (School Office) will be responsible for the upkeep of the school's anaphylaxis training records. The Headteacher (Miss Crossley) will be responsible for the upkeep of the school's policy.

All staff will complete online AllergyWise anaphylaxis training at the start of every new academic year. Training is also available on an ad-hoc basis for any new members of staff.

Training includes:

- Knowing the common allergens and triggers of allergy

- Spotting the signs and symptoms of an allergic reaction and anaphylaxis. Early recognition of symptoms is key, including knowing when to call for emergency services
- Administering emergency treatment (including AAls) in the event of anaphylaxis – knowing how and when to administer the medication/device
- Measures to reduce the risk of a child having an allergic reaction e.g. allergen avoidance, knowing who is responsible for what
- Managing allergy action plans and ensuring these are up to date
- A practical session using trainer devices (these can be obtained from the manufacturers' websites: www.epipen.co.uk and www.jext.co.uk and www.emerade-bausch.co.uk)

Catering

All food businesses (including school caterers) must follow the Food Information Regulations 2014 which states that allergen information relating to the 'Top 14' allergens must be available for all food products.

The school menu is available for parents to view in weekly/fortnightly/monthly advance with all ingredients listed and allergens highlighted on the school website at www.johnsonfold.bolton.sch.uk

The office staff will inform the catering manager, Miss Moncado, of pupils with food allergies. Johnson Fold CP school has a system in place to ensure catering staff can identify pupils with allergies with a list with photographs for identifying pupils. The office staff have responsibility for keeping this up to date.

Parents/carers are encouraged to meet with the Catering Manager to discuss their child's needs.

The school adheres to the following Department of Health guidance recommendations:

- Bottles, other drinks and lunch boxes provided by parents for pupils with food allergies should be clearly labelled with the name of the child for whom they are intended.
- If food is purchased from the school canteen, parents should check the appropriateness of foods by speaking directly to the catering manager.
- The pupil should be taught to also check with catering staff, before purchasing food or selecting their lunch choice.
- Where food is provided by the school, staff should be educated about how to read labels for food allergens and instructed about measures to prevent cross contamination during the handling, preparation and serving of food.

Examples include: preparing food for children with food allergies first; careful cleaning (using 8 warm soapy water) of food preparation areas and utensils. For further information, parents/carers are encouraged to liaise with the Catering Manager.

- Food should not be given to primary school age food-allergic children without parental engagement and permission (e.g. birthday parties, food treats).
- Use of food in crafts, cooking classes, science experiments and special events (e.g. fetes, assemblies, cultural events) needs to be considered and may need to be restricted/risk assessed depending on the allergies of particular children and their age.

School trips

Staff leading school trips will ensure they carry all relevant emergency supplies. Trip leaders will check that all pupils with medical conditions, including allergies, carry their medication. Pupils unable to produce their required medication will not be able to attend the excursion.

All the activities on the school trip will be risk assessed to see if they pose a threat to allergic pupils and alternative activities planned to ensure inclusion.

Overnight school trips should be possible with careful planning and a meeting for parents with the lead member of staff planning the trip should be arranged. Staff at the venue for an overnight school trip should be briefed early on that an allergic child is attending and will need appropriate food (if provided by the venue).

Sporting Excursions

Allergic children should have every opportunity to attend sports trips to other schools. The school will ensure that the P.E. teacher/s are fully aware of the situation. The school being visited will be notified that a member of the team has an allergy when arranging the fixture. A member of staff trained in administering adrenaline will accompany the team. If another school feels that they are not equipped to cater for any food-allergic child, the school will arrange for the child to take alternative/their own food.

Most parents are keen that their children should be included in the full life of the school where possible, and the school will need their co-operation with any special arrangements required.

Allergy awareness and nut bans

Johnson Fold CP School supports the approach advocated by Anaphylaxis UK towards nut bans/nut free schools. They would not necessarily support a blanket ban on any particular allergen in any establishment, including in schools. This is because nuts are only one of many allergens that could affect pupils, and no school could guarantee a truly allergen free environment for a child living with food allergy. They advocate instead for schools to adopt a culture of allergy awareness and education.

A 'whole school awareness of allergies' is a much better approach, as it ensures teachers, pupils and all other staff are aware of what allergies are, the importance of avoiding the 9 pupils' allergens, the signs & symptoms, how to deal with allergic reactions and to ensure policies and procedures are in place to minimise risk.

8. Monitoring arrangements

Analysis of all incidents is carried out at least half termly in order to identify trends and any possible courses of action. The school also commissions an annual Health and Safety review from [AW Safety Management](#), the school's named advisor for Health and Safety

This policy will be reviewed by the Head of School annually. At every review, the policy will be approved by the local governing board.

9. Links with other policies

This first aid policy is linked to the

- Health and safety policy
- Policy on supporting pupils with medical conditions

Risk Assessment

Johnson Fold CP School will conduct a detailed individual risk assessment for all new joining pupils with allergies and any pupils newly diagnosed, to help identify any gaps in our systems and processes for keeping allergic children safe.

[Wiltshire Children Trust - Anaphylaxis Risk Assessment Example Template](#)

Useful Links

Anaphylaxis UK - <https://www.anaphylaxis.org.uk/>

- Safer Schools Programme - <https://www.anaphylaxis.org.uk/education/saferschools-programme/>
- AllergyWise for Schools online training - <https://www.allergywise.org.uk/p/allergywise-for-schools1>
- Allergy UK - <https://www.allergyuk.org>
- Resources for managing allergies at school - <https://www.allergyuk.org/living-withan-allergy/at-school/>

BSACI Allergy Action Plans - <https://www.bsaci.org/professionalresources/resources/paediatric-allergy-action-plans/>

Spare Pens in Schools - <http://www.sparepensinschools.uk>

Department for Education Supporting pupils at school with medical conditions - https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/803956/supporting-pupils-at-school-with-medical-conditions.pdf

Department of Health Guidance on the use of adrenaline auto-injectors in schools - https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/645476/Adrenaline_auto_injectors_in_schools.pdf Food allergy quality standards (The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence, March 2016) <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/qs118>

Anaphylaxis: assessment and referral after emergency treatment (The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence, 2020) <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/cg134?unlid=22904150420167115834>

Appendix

Around 2-5% of children in the UK live with a food allergy, and most school classrooms will have at least one allergic pupil. These young people are at risk of anaphylaxis, a potentially life-threatening reaction which requires an immediate emergency response. 20% of serious allergic reactions to food happen whilst a child is at school, and these can happen in someone with no prior history of food allergy. It is essential that staff recognise the signs of an allergic reaction, and are able to manage it safely and effectively.

An allergy is a reaction of the body's immune system to substances that are usually harmless. The reaction can cause minor symptoms such as itching, sneezing or rashes but sometimes causes a much more serious reaction called anaphylaxis.

Anaphylaxis is a serious, life-threatening allergic reaction. It is at the extreme end of the allergic spectrum. The whole body is affected often within minutes of exposure to the allergen, but sometimes it can be hours later. Causes can include foods, insect stings, and drugs.

Most healthcare professionals consider an allergic reaction to be anaphylaxis when it involves difficulty breathing or affects the heart rhythm or blood pressure. Anaphylaxis symptoms are often referred to as the ABC symptoms (Airway, Breathing, Circulation).

It is possible to be allergic to anything which contains a protein, however most people will react to a fairly small group of potent allergens.

Common UK Allergens include (but are not limited to):- Peanuts, Tree Nuts, Sesame, Milk, Egg, Fish, Latex, Insect venom, Pollen and Animal Dander.

Emergency Treatment and Management of Anaphylaxis

What to look for: Symptoms usually come on quickly, within minutes of exposure to the allergen.

Mild to moderate allergic reaction symptoms may include:

- a red raised rash (known as hives or urticaria) anywhere on the body
- a tingling or itchy feeling in the mouth
- swelling of lips, face or eyes
- stomach pain or vomiting.

More serious symptoms are often referred to as the ABC symptoms and can include:

Airway:

- Swollen tongue
- Difficulty swallowing/speaking
- Throat tightness
- Change in voice (hoarse or croaky sounds)

Breathing:

- Difficult or noisy breathing
- Chest tightness
- Persistent cough
- Wheeze (whistling noise due to a narrowed airway)

Circulation:

- Feeling dizzy or faint
- Collapse
- Babies and young children may suddenly become floppy and pale
- Loss of consciousness (unresponsive)

The term for this more serious reaction is anaphylaxis. In extreme cases there could be a dramatic fall in blood pressure. The person may become weak and floppy and may have a sense of something terrible happening. This may lead to collapse and unconsciousness and, on rare occasions, can be fatal.

If the pupil has been exposed to something they are known to be allergic to, then it is more likely to be an anaphylactic reaction. Anaphylaxis can develop very rapidly, so a treatment is needed that works rapidly. Adrenaline is the mainstay of treatment, and it starts to work within seconds.

What does adrenaline do?

- It opens up the airways
- It stops swelling
- It raises the blood pressure

As soon as anaphylaxis is suspected, adrenaline must be administered without delay.

Action:

- Keep the child where they are, call for help and do not leave them unattended.
- LIE CHILD FLAT WITH LEGS RAISED – they can be propped up if struggling to breathe but this should be for as short a time as possible.
- USE ADRENALINE AUTO-INJECTOR WITHOUT DELAY and note the time given. AAI should be given into the muscle in the outer thigh. Specific instructions vary by brand – always follow the instructions on the device.
- CALL 999 and state ANAPHYLAXIS (ana-fil-axis).
- If no improvement after 5 minutes, administer second AAI.
- If no signs of life commence CPR.
- Call parent/carer as soon as possible.

Whilst you are waiting for the ambulance, keep the child where they are. Do not stand them up, or sit them in a chair, even if they are feeling better. This could lower their blood pressure drastically, causing their heart to stop.

All pupils must go to hospital for observation after anaphylaxis even if they appear to have recovered as a reaction can reoccur after treatment.