



Allergy Safety Policy

**THIS POLICY IS TO BE REVIEWED
ANNUALLY**

Chair of Governors

Signed

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Section 1

Introduction

This policy outlines East Preston Infant School's arrangements for supporting pupils, staff, parents and visitors who have allergies and reducing the risk of allergic reactions, including anaphylaxis.

Section 34 of the Children's Wellbeing and Schools Act 2026 (Benedict's Law) requires schools to maintain an Allergy Safety Policy that sets out arrangements to reduce exposure to known allergens and details emergency response procedures for anaphylaxis.

East Preston Infant School is committed to creating a safe, inclusive and supportive environment in which children with allergies can participate fully in all aspects of school life. This policy supports the school's wider health, safety, safeguarding and medical needs arrangements

East Preston Infant School is a Rights Respecting School. All pupils, staff and visitors have the right to be healthy, safe, educated, listened to and treated fairly. These principles are at the heart of our school ethos and underpin our policies and procedures.

We specifically recognise:

Article 3 – The best interests of the child must be a top priority.

Article 24 – Every child has the right to the best possible health.

Article 28 – Every child has the right to education.

At East Preston Infant School, we are committed to creating a safe, nurturing and inclusive environment where every child can thrive.

We recognise that allergies can have a significant impact upon a child's health, wellbeing and ability to access learning. Through our Rights Respecting ethos, partnership with families and commitment to inclusion, we strive to ensure that pupils with allergies feel safe, valued and supported.

Statement of Intent

East Preston Infant School recognises that allergies can result in serious and potentially life-threatening conditions, including anaphylaxis.

The school is committed to:

- Reducing the risk of exposure to known allergens.
- Supporting pupils and staff with allergies.
- Establishing clear allergy management arrangements.
- Training staff to recognise and respond appropriately to allergic reactions.
- Maintaining effective communication with families and health professionals.
- Promoting a culture of awareness, inclusion and shared responsibility

Aims

- To provide a safe environment for pupils with allergies.

- To reduce the risk of accidental allergen exposure.
- To ensure staff are appropriately trained.
- To support full inclusion in school life.
- To establish clear emergency procedures.
- To fulfil statutory responsibilities relating to allergy safety

Section 2

Staffing Provision

Governing Body

The Governing Body will:

- Ensure implementation of this policy.
- Review arrangements annually.
- Ensure sufficient resources are available.
- Monitor significant incidents where appropriate

Headteacher

The Headteacher **Claire New** will:

- Ensure compliance with allergy safety legislation.
- Monitor allergy arrangements.
- Ensure staff receive suitable training.
- Review incidents and near misses.

Allergy Lead

The designated Senior Leader responsible for allergy safety is **Philippa Moulson**

The Allergy Leads are **Claire Greenway and Philippa Moulson**

In the absence of the Allergy Leads, responsibility will transfer to **Carol Chilvers**.

Responsibilities include:

- Maintaining allergy registers.
- Monitoring healthcare plans.
- Coordinating training.
- Monitoring emergency medication.
- Liaising with parents and professionals.
- Reviewing incidents and near misses

Section 3

Identification of Allergies

Information regarding allergies is collected through:

- Admission processes.
- Annual pupil updates.
- Medical professionals.
- Parent and carer communication. The school maintains an up-to-date register of pupils with allergies.

Individual Healthcare Plans

Individual Healthcare Plans (IHPs) provide details of medical needs, allergen avoidance strategies, emergency arrangements and medication requirements.

IHPs will be reviewed annually or sooner if circumstances change

Allergy Action Plans

Where provided by healthcare professionals, Allergy Action Plans (AAPs) will be attached to Individual Healthcare Plans and shared with appropriate staff.

Relevant allergy information will be shared on a need-to-know basis with teaching staff, support staff, lunchtime supervisors, catering providers, wraparound care staff, educational visit leaders and other professionals working with the child in order to ensure their safety

Section 4

Training and Awareness

All staff will receive annual allergy awareness training.

Training will include:

- Understanding allergies and anaphylaxis.
- Recognising symptoms.
- Administration of adrenaline auto-injectors.
- Emergency procedures.
- Reducing risk of allergen exposure.
- Reporting incidents and near misses
- New staff will receive training through induction procedures.
- Relevant information regarding pupils with allergies will be shared with supply staff, volunteers and temporary staff before they assume responsibility for pupils

Wellbeing and Inclusion

East Preston Infant School recognises that allergies can create anxiety for children and families. Age-appropriate allergy awareness education may be delivered to pupils to promote understanding, inclusion and safe behaviours.

The school will:

- Promote awareness and understanding.
- Plan events inclusively.
- Support pupil confidence and independence.
- Respond swiftly to concerns.

Allergy-related bullying, teasing or deliberate exposure to allergens will be treated seriously and may be addressed through safeguarding procedures.

Section 5

Minimising Risk

The school adopts a whole-school approach to allergy safety.

Measures include:

- Maintaining accurate records.
- Sharing relevant information with staff.
- Risk assessing activities where appropriate.
- Discouraging food sharing.
- Monitoring food-related activities.
- Maintaining access to emergency medication.

Food Allergy Arrangements

The school will:

- Liaise with catering providers.
- Ensure allergen information is available.
- Communicate dietary requirements.
- Promote safe eating practices.

Children will be discouraged from sharing:

- Food.
- Snacks.
- Drinks.
- Utensils.

Curriculum Activities

Risk assessments will consider the use of allergens within:

- Cooking.
- Science.
- Art.
- Play dough.
- Enrichment activities.

Birthdays and Celebrations

The school will make reasonable adjustments to ensure that celebrations remain inclusive and safe for all pupils. To minimise the risk of allergic reactions and support compliance with Benedict's Law, pupils are not permitted to bring sweets, cakes, or other food items into school for sharing with classmates.

Section 6

Medication and Emergency Equipment

Each pupil prescribed adrenaline auto-injectors should provide two in-date prescribed devices to school. These are stored in the pupil's medical kit. The medical kit also contains a copy of the pupil's Allergy Action Plan and any prescribed antihistamine medication.

Medication:

- Must be clearly labelled.
- Must remain in date.
- Must be readily accessible.
- Must accompany pupils on visits.

Administration will be recorded using Medibook. The school will not:

- Exclude pupils from activities due to allergies without appropriate risk assessment.
- Prevent pupils from carrying prescribed medication where appropriate.
- Delay administration of adrenaline while waiting for a parent or ambulance.
- Require parents to attend school to administer emergency medication.

Spare Adrenaline Auto-Injectors

The school maintains spare emergency adrenaline auto-injectors in accordance with current legislation and West Sussex guidance

These devices:

- Are not a replacement for prescribed medication.

- May be used in emergency situations.
- Are stored in clearly identified locations.
- Are regularly checked for expiry dates.

Section 7

Emergency Procedures

The school's emergency allergy kit contains spare adrenaline auto-injectors (AAIs). These are emergency back-up devices and do not replace a pupil's own prescribed medication. Spare AAIs may be used in accordance with Department of Health and Social Care guidance and parental consent arrangements where a pupil's prescribed device is unavailable, inaccessible, damaged, expired or where a second dose of adrenaline is required

Emergency allergy kits and spare AAIs are stored in clearly labelled, readily accessible locations known to all staff and are never locked away. Kit medical is located by the first aid room and spare AAIs are located in the main office.

Mild Allergic Reactions

Symptoms may include:

- Itching.
- Mild rash.
- Redness.
- Localised swelling.
- Watery eyes.

Treatment will follow the individual's healthcare plan.

Anaphylaxis

Symptoms may include:

Airway

- Swollen tongue.
- Swollen throat.
- Difficulty swallowing.

Breathing

- Wheezing.
- Persistent cough.
- Difficulty breathing.

Circulation

- Dizziness.
- Pale skin.
- Collapse.
- Loss of consciousness.

Emergency Procedure

1. Administer adrenaline immediately.
2. Call 999 and state "anaphylaxis".
3. Send for additional medication.
4. Monitor continuously.
5. Administer a second AAI if required.
6. Inform parents.
7. Record the incident.

Section 8

Off-site Activities

Educational Visits and Off-Site Activities

Risk assessments will consider:

- Access to medication.
- Environmental allergens.
- Catering arrangements.
- Access to emergency services.
- Staffing requirements.

Healthcare plans and medication must accompany pupils on educational visits.

Section 9

Recording, Monitoring and Reporting

All medication administration, allergic reactions, anaphylaxis incidents, near misses, medication checks and emergency treatment will be recorded on Medibook. Parents will be notified through Medibook and records will be retained in accordance with the school's record management procedures

Information Sharing and Data Protection

Health information relating to allergies constitutes special category data under UK GDPR.

The school will:

- Store information securely.
- Share information only where necessary to keep pupils safe.
- Follow Data Protection Policy requirements.
- Ensure information is handled confidentially.

Section 10

Insurance

Staff following the procedures outlined within this policy will be covered under relevant West Sussex County Council insurance arrangements.

Monitoring and Review

This policy will be published on the school website and made available to parents, staff and visitors on request

The school will monitor:

- Allergy incidents.
- Near misses.
- Staff training compliance.
- Healthcare plans.
- Medication checks and expiry dates.

This policy will be reviewed annually or sooner if:

- Legislation changes.
- Guidance changes.
- A significant incident occurs.
- Procedures require amendment.

Linked Policies

- First Aid, Intimate Care and Medicines in School Policy
- Asthma Policy
- Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy
- Health and Safety Policy

- Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Educational Visits Policy
- SEND Policy
- Equality Policy

Document Control

Date	Change	Author	Version
September 2026	New policy produced following implementation of Benedict's Law	Claire Greenway	1.0