



**SIR WILLIAM BORLASE'S
GRAMMAR SCHOOL**

Allergy and Anaphylaxis Management Policy Benedict's Law

Senior Leader Review: Headteacher

Reviewed Summer 2026

Next Review Date: Summer 2027



*Inspire
Empower
Shape The Future*

Sir William Borlase's Grammar School is committed to a whole school approach to the health care and management of those members of the school community suffering from specific allergies.

The School position is not to guarantee a completely allergen free environment, rather to minimise the risk of exposure, encourage self-responsibility, and plan for an effective response to possible emergencies.

The School is committed to proactive risk allergy management through:

- Identifying, as part of the admissions process, any student who may have a medical condition linked to allergies
- The creation of Individual Healthcare Plans in conjunction with parents and carers that are updated as required. These plans will include information on triggers, day to day management and emergency planning.
- The encouragement of self-responsibility and learned avoidance strategies amongst children suffering from allergies.
- The implementation and monitoring of Whole Staff Awareness Training
- Correct reporting of all incidents and near misses via CPOMS
- The understanding that OFSTED will review the implementation of this policy as part of its inspection process.

This management approach is congruent with contemporary specialist medical advice, and the School believes educating children to self-manage their condition is a skill attuned to their 'real world' situation.

RATIONALE

The School recognises that a number of (pupils and staff may suffer from potentially life threatening allergies to certain foods or toxins from insects. The School seeks parent/carer, staff and pupil support towards maintaining a minimised risk environment, whilst also concentrating on ensuring effective medical response to potential anaphylactic episodes.

The intent of this policy is to minimise the risk of any child suffering allergy-induced anaphylaxis whilst at School or attending any school related activity, and to ensure staff are properly prepared to manage such emergency situations should they arise.

The common causes of allergies relevant to this policy are nuts, (in particular peanuts), stings from wasps, bees, and insects. The allergy to nuts is the most common high risk allergy, and as such demands more rigorous controls than the controls for allergies to dairy products, eggs and wasps, bees and ants.

The underlying principles of the School Allergy Policy include: -

- The pro-active establishment of effective risk management practices to minimise pupil, staff, parents'/carers' and visitors' exposure to known trigger foods and insects.



- Staff training and education to ensure an effective emergency response to any allergic reaction situation.

DEFINITIONS

Allergy - A condition in which the body has an exaggerated response to a substance (e.g. food or drug). Also known as hypersensitivity.

Allergen – A normally harmless substance that triggers an allergic reaction in the immune system of a susceptible person.

Anaphylaxis – Anaphylaxis, or anaphylactic shock, is a sudden, severe and potentially life-threatening allergic reaction to food, stings, bites, or medicines.

EpiPen – Brand name for syringe style device containing the drug adrenaline which is ready for immediate intramuscular administration.

Minimised Risk Environment - An environment where risk management practices have minimised the risk of (allergen) exposure to a reasonable level. Not an allergen free environment.

Anaphylaxis Health Care Plan – A detailed document outlining an individual student's condition, treatment, and action plan for location of EpiPen.

Management System – A record system managed by the person in charge which describes the individual student medical care plans and the particular members of staff who will need to be trained and informed of these plans.

KEY STRATEGIES

General Aspects

- The establishment of clear procedures and responsibilities to be followed by staff in meeting the needs of children with additional medical needs.
- The involvement of parents/carers, staff and the child in establishing an individual medical care plan.
- Ensuring effective communication of individual child medical needs to all relevant teachers and other staff.
- Ensuring First Aid Staff training includes anaphylaxis management, including awareness of triggers and first aid procedures to be followed in the event of an emergency.
- Parents/carers of children with packed lunches will be requested to give careful thought to eliminating food that may be of risk to those members of staff and pupils who suffer from such allergies.

Nut Related Aspects

If the school is aware of a child who suffers a nut allergy, the school lunch caterer and suppliers must be made aware of the risk minimisation policy and requested to eliminate nuts and food items with nuts as ingredients from meals. This does not extend to those foods labelled “may contain traces of nuts”

Children are encouraged to self-manage their allergy.



Insect Related Aspects

The school will maintain the diligent management of wasp, bee and ant nests on school grounds and proximity. This must include the effective system for staff reporting to the site team, and a system of timely response to eradicating nests.

Education of staff and pupils to report any above normal presence of wasps, bees or ants in all areas of the school.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Parents/Carers are responsible for:

- Providing ongoing, accurate and current medical information in writing to the School. · This is to include the completion of admission Information & medication consents forms. The School will seek updated information annually, to which parents are required to respond. Furthermore, should a child develop a condition during a year, or have a change in condition the parents must advise the School of the fact, and details to be clarified accordingly in the individual health plan.
- Providing written advice from a doctor, which explains the child's allergy, defines the allergy triggers and reaction, and any required medication, including completion of an action plan with supporting photographic or other evidence.
- Providing Autoinjectors and/or other necessary medication, including monitoring their use by dates and replacing medication if necessary.
- Providing appropriate foods to be consumed by the child if necessary.
- Ensuring their child carries their own emergency medication at all times.

The Healthcare and wellbeing lead is responsible for:

- Ensuring the School receives medical documentation regarding a child's allergy.
- Ensuring there is an effective system to ensure this medical information is regularly updated.
- Ensuring that an Action Plan is provided by the child's parents.
- Ensuring that where children with known allergies are participating in camps and/or external visits, the risk assessment and safety management plans for those camps and external visits include the Pupil's Health Care plan.
- Ensuring that first aid staff are trained in the use of EpiPens and management of anaphylaxis.

Catering Staff are responsible for:

- Using only authorised suppliers and being the controlling/point and contact for all purchases of food stuffs for school catering.
- Ensuring suppliers of all foods and catering suppliers are aware of the school minimisation policy. · Ensuring supplies of food stuffs are nut free or labelled "may contain nuts"



- Being aware of pupils and staff who have such food allergies.
- Clear labelling of items of food stuff that may contain nuts.

EDUCATIONAL VISITS

- The Trip Leader will check with any food provider and ensure 'safe' food is provided, or that an effective control is in place to minimise risk of exposure.
- Where a pupil is prescribed an Autoinjector the Trip Leader will ensure they or another supervising staff member is trained in the use of the Autoinjector, and capable of performing any required medical treatment as outlined in the pupil's Health Care Plan.
- The Trip leader will ensure the pupil has their EpiPen on the visit, and ensure a buddy system is in place. The Trip leader will carry the spare.
- If in doubt over the risk of a pupil with an allergy taking part on an education visit the Trip Leader should seek advice from the parent.

SCHOOL MANAGEMENT OF SEVERE ALLERGIES (ANAPHYLAXIS)

- All staff should be made aware of severe allergies and anaphylaxis and the emergency care procedures. This will be part of the annual updating system on Smartlog and staff will be required to confirm their training. Where a staff member has a child in their class they will be invited to practice injecting an autoinjector on a one to one basis.
- Involved staff will know about the School Health Care Plan. This will be reported as part of the weekly pastoral meetings and it will be recorded on the Learning Needs Map.
- The pupil is to carry one autoinjector with another one kept in a central, easily accessible place with an Emergency Care Flow Diagram.
- The school will have a plan in place when undertaking all curriculum activities that may use food in science experiments, sensory play or simply taste testing
- The school will implement a clear plan when selling cakes/food stuff in a cake sale identifying all ingredients in a very clear manner.
- The school will ensure a dialogue with the in house caterer and any third party providers brought on to site. They will be required to demonstrate that they have a clear understanding about Benedicts Law and be able to demonstrate how they have implemented its requirements
- Consideration of a pupil's allergies is to be given with regard to classes to be attended, e.g food preparation or use of certain materials in science lessons

It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to ensure that:

- o Medication is supplied to the school.
- o The medication is replaced as necessary i.e on change of dose or expiry date.
- o All medication has the original pharmacy label attached stating the pupil's name, date of birth and dose instructions.

