



St Mary's CE Primary School

Allergy Safety Policy

2026-2027

School Mission Statement

Based upon our belief of Jesus Christ as the Son of God and Saviour of the World, we will give all children a positive experience of Christianity and learning, whilst retaining a respect for other faiths.

We will promote the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of all pupils, within a caring, loving, stimulating and nurturing environment, which is firmly based upon Christian values.

All children will receive a wealth of high quality educational experiences through the positive involvement of school, home and St. Mary's Church.

Policy Statement

This policy meets the requirements of Section 34 of the Children's Wellbeing and Schools Act 2026. **The Headteacher, Mr Neil Gurman, has overall responsibility for allergy safety.** The policy is reviewed annually and following any allergy-related incident or near miss.

Awareness Training

All staff, including temporary staff, supply teachers, agency staff, volunteers and catering staff, receive annual allergy awareness and emergency response training. This includes all staff who oversee children and young people at breakfast and after-school clubs. New staff receive training as part of induction. Training covers allergy awareness, recognising symptoms and anaphylaxis, emergency response, use of adrenaline auto-injectors, individual responsibilities and reporting procedures.

Training is not intended to include contractors carrying out work with no pupil facing role such as builder or ad hoc maintenance personnel.

Training should be understood as allergy awareness and emergency response training. It should not replace any separate clinical governance, competency or delegation arrangements that may be needed where a child or young person requires individual healthcare support beyond school-level allergy safety requirements.

Allergy awareness training will ensure all staff:

- Have an awareness of allergy, the risk it poses, how allergic reactions can occur and how to manage it;
- Understand that allergy includes multiple conditions (food allergy, asthma, eczema, hay fever and others), which can co-exist;
- Understand the difference between food allergy, coeliac disease and food intolerance;
- Know where to find information on allergy triggers

Annual training materials and the 'Allergy Safety in School Statutory guidance July 2026' will be available on the staff server to support with this.

- Can identify the range of symptoms of allergic reactions
- Understand and recognize anaphylaxis;
- Know to respond in an emergency including:
 - Calling emergency services and informing parents
 - **How to locate and administer emergency medicine. Adrenaline for anaphylaxis, asthma reliever inhaler for an asthma attack are located in the small office opposite the school reception)**
 - Training on how to use the medication/device in an emergency, whether this is prescribed to give a person or the school's 'spare' adrenaline device.
- Understand the impact allergy can have a child or young person's wellbeing
- Understand the allergy safety policy
- Know how to check whether an individual is on the record of those with known allergy and how to use an Allergy or Asthma Action Plan
- Understand their responsibilities in reducing the risk of individuals with known allergy coming into contact with their known allergens
- Understand how to report an allergic reaction or case of anaphylaxis (whether an incident or a near miss).

Types of allergy are in scope

Allergy is a spectrum of different allergic diseases. Reactions occur when a susceptible person is exposed to something (an "allergen") they are allergic to. Asthma, food allergy, eczema and seasonal rhinitis (hay fever) are all forms of allergy.

St Mary's CE Primary School will implement measures to support children and young people with allergy, for example:

- Children and young people with food allergy
- Children and young people at risk of anaphylaxis (usually allergic to food or bee/wasp sting)
- Children and young people with allergic rhinitis (hay fever), allergic eye disease or eczema, who may need to be given treatments for their condition in school (e.g. eczema creams, nasal sprays,

eye drops), particularly if they have more severe allergic disease or need adaptations e.g. with sport

-Children and young people with eczema or asthma, who may need additional precautions (e.g. avoiding sand pits, some swimming pools)

- Children and young people with more severe allergy to animal fur, who may need to take avoidance measures (e.g. exposure to pets in school, visits to petting zoos)

Wellbeing

St Mary's recognises that allergies can cause anxiety and affect wellbeing. Pupils with allergies will be supported sensitively and included fully in school life. Allergy-related bullying, teasing or exclusion will not be tolerated and will be dealt with in accordance with behaviour and anti-bullying policies, where appropriate. Staff will promote on-going understanding and respect for medical needs.

Minimising Risk

The school will reduce exposure to known allergens through

- careful food management
- communication with parents
- allergen-aware curriculum planning and risk assessments.
- Activities involving food, animals, craft materials, science experiments or trips will consider allergy risks in advance.
- specific risk assessments to manage the risk of exposure to allergens in individuals with an allergy when planning external visits or trips.

Food Allergy

St Mary's CE Primary School will work with catering providers to identify allergens in food served and provide clear information on allergens provided in food.

We will also have open and transparent communication with parents and carers. Parents and carers must inform the school of allergies.

Food brought into school for celebrations or activities will be restricted where necessary to protect pupils with severe allergies. Home-made food for any events or celebrations are not permitted to be brought into school either by staff, parents or pupils under any circumstances.

Identification and Records

Information about allergies is collected by parents and carers on admission and reviewed regularly. This will also be collected from any previous settings if a child joins us at different times during the school year.

A central register of pupils with allergies is maintained and available for staff viewing in the small office or via our MIS System Arbor. Relevant staff have access to allergy information, Healthcare Plans and Allergy Action Plans.

Individual Healthcare Plans

Children should have an Individual Healthcare Plan (IHP) if:

- they have an allergy which has a functional impact on them in school
- they are at risk of harm as a result of their allergy and
- they require arrangements which are additional to or different from those made generally.

The IHP will set out the additional and/or different arrangements that will be in place at St Mary's Primary School for supporting the child with their medical condition or allergy, including in emergency situations.

The pupils Individual Healthcare Plan (IHP) will include information on allergens, symptoms, emergency procedures, medication requirements and reasonable adjustments.

Where pupils have an Allergy Action Plans and/or Asthma Action Plan issued by a healthcare professional, the IHP will make reference to it or be attached. Whenever an Action Plan becomes available, the child's IHP will be reviewed to incorporate it.

Prescribed Adrenaline

Pupils prescribed adrenaline auto-injectors must have immediate access to their devices at all times, including during PE, playtimes and educational visits. Parents are responsible for providing in-date medication and replacements.

Pupils who have an individually prescribed adrenaline device will keep this in their school bag each day so that it is available for them at all times of the day and so that they can take the pen with them for their journey home each day.

Spare Adrenaline Devices

The school will maintain spare adrenaline auto-injectors in pairs and in accordance with statutory guidance. They will be stored in pairs in case a second one is needed and is on hand immediately.

Devices will be clearly labelled as 'school spare' to avoid confusion with adrenaline devices prescribed to a named person, stored securely but accessible, checked regularly each month or earlier if required and replaced before expiry.

If a spare adrenaline auto-injector has been used this will be replaced with a new pair immediately.

Location

Spare devices will be stored in pairs and will be located in the small office, opposite the main school reception; this is to ensure they are accessible within 5 minutes from all parts of the school building.

Records will be maintained for all children who have been provided with prescribed adrenaline devices and an Allergy Action Plan. These will be available to view:

- **On our MIS system Arbor**
- **Available to view in the staff room**
- **Available to view in the school office**
- **Available to view in each classroom**
- **Available to view in the school kitchen**
- **Available to view in the community room**

Visits and Trips

Risk assessments will be completed before all visits. Staff responsible for trips will be aware of pupils' allergies and ensure medication is available. Trained staff will accompany pupils at risk of anaphylaxis.

All pupils and staff will ensure they have their adrenaline auto-injector with them whilst attending any trips, visits or enrichment activities inside or outside of school.

Serious Incidents and Near Misses

All allergic reactions, administration of medication, serious incidents and near misses will be recorded, investigated and reviewed. Parents will be informed promptly and lessons learned will be incorporated into future practice.

Information Sharing

Allergy information will be shared on a need-to-know basis and managed in line with UK GDPR.

Schools have a lawful basis to hold, use and share a child's special category health data when this is necessary, but it should be done in a controlled and respectful way, because unnecessary sharing can reduce children's confidence in practitioners if shared incorrectly.

Records will be stored securely while ensuring staff can respond quickly in an emergency.

Awareness of the Policy

St Mary's Primary school Allergy Safety policy will be published on the school website, made available on request and discussed during staff training. Age-appropriate awareness may be provided to pupils to promote a safe and supportive environment.