



Allergy Policy

Part 2 School Contextual Allergy Policy

Allergy Awareness and Staff Training

At Isaac Newton Primary School, we are committed to ensuring that all pupils with allergies are kept safe, included and fully supported throughout their time at school.

Our staff complete allergy awareness training developed with **Anaphylaxis UK**, which supports the requirements of Benedict's Law and the DfE guidance on supporting pupils with medical conditions, including allergies. All new staff will complete the training on induction. The training covers a range of allergy triggers, not just food. It supports staff to recognise allergy risks, take appropriate steps to prevent reactions and respond confidently and effectively to anaphylaxis in school.

All relevant staff will complete the required training by September 2026 and will receive appropriate updates to ensure their knowledge and confidence remain current.

At Isaac Newton Primary School, we recognise that allergies can affect children in different ways and that staff need to be confident in preventing and responding to allergic reactions. Staff receive allergy awareness and emergency response training. This enables staff to recognise the signs and symptoms of an allergic reaction and anaphylaxis, understand common triggers and risks, and take appropriate steps to reduce the risk of exposure. Staff are trained to respond quickly and confidently in an emergency, including how to use a pupil's adrenaline auto-injector (AAI) correctly and when to call for emergency medical assistance.

Our training also emphasises the importance of clear communication between staff, parents/carers and other professionals. Staff are familiar with pupils' Individual Healthcare Plans (IHPs), their individual allergy needs and the procedures to follow in an emergency.

Through effective training, communication and consistent procedures, we aim to ensure that pupils with allergies can learn, play and take part in all aspects of school life safely and confidently.

Outline of Staff Training: - Certificate in Allergy & Anaphylaxis Awareness

Outcome 1:

Gaining a clear understanding of the various triggers for allergies and anaphylaxis (including food, insect stings, medications and latex) and recognising the symptoms

Outcome 2:

Identifying potential allergy risks in the school environment and implementing effective preventive measures to reduce the likelihood of an anaphylactic reaction

Outcome 3:

Recognising the appropriate steps to take in an anaphylactic emergency and building the confidence to respond in a way which ensures the safety and wellbeing of affected individuals

Outcome 4:

Considering how to create an inclusive, safe environment for pupils who have allergies; to communicate effectively with parents, children and staff; and to implement school-wide policies

Outcome 5:

Realising the importance of ongoing staff training and awareness in maintaining a high standard of allergy management and anaphylaxis prevention across the whole school community.

Named allergy lead and responsibility

David Milner is the Allergy Lead in school. The **Allergy Lead** is responsible for overseeing allergy safety, maintaining allergy records, coordinating staff training and ensuring appropriate arrangements are in place for pupils with allergies.

Identifying children, staff and visitors with allergies and/or asthma

The school will identify pupils with known allergies and/or asthma through admissions information, parent/carers communication, Individual Healthcare Plans (IHPs) and medical information provided to the school. Staff and regular visitors will also be asked to disclose relevant medical information.

Minimising the risk of exposure to known allergens

The school will minimise exposure to known allergens through appropriate risk assessments, communication with staff and catering providers, good hygiene practices, appropriate cleaning and by ensuring known allergens are not knowingly provided to pupils at risk.

Managing food allergy and providing clear allergen information

Where food is provided, the school will ensure allergen information is available and communicated clearly to pupils, parents/carers and relevant staff. Catering staff will follow agreed procedures to prevent cross-contamination and will check ingredients before food is served.

Staff allergy awareness and emergency response training

Relevant staff will receive regular training to recognise the signs of an allergic reaction, anaphylaxis and acute asthma, and understand how to respond appropriately, including when to administer emergency medication and call 999.

Access to prescribed adrenaline and asthma inhalers

Pupils prescribed adrenaline auto-injectors (AAIs) and/or asthma inhalers will have immediate access to their medication during the school day and when taking part in activities, trips and visits.

Spare adrenaline devices and asthma inhalers

The school will maintain appropriate spare AAIs and emergency asthma inhalers, where applicable, and ensure they are stored securely but are readily accessible, clearly labelled and regularly checked to ensure they remain in date.

School trips and visits

Allergy and asthma needs will be considered as part of the risk assessment for all trips and visits. Prescribed and emergency medication will accompany the pupil, and staff will ensure appropriate supervision and access to medication throughout the visit.

Individual Healthcare Plans

Pupils requiring specific support for allergy and/or asthma will have an up-to-date Individual Healthcare Plan (IHP) developed with parents/carers and, where appropriate, healthcare professionals. The IHP will include known triggers, symptoms, medication and emergency procedures.

Promoting wellbeing

The school will promote the wellbeing and inclusion of pupils with allergies by ensuring they are supported to participate fully in school life and are not unnecessarily excluded from activities because of their medical needs.

Reporting serious incidents and near misses

Serious allergic reactions, asthma incidents and significant near misses will be recorded and reported to the appropriate Trust/LSB safeguarding or health and safety lead. Incidents will be reviewed to identify lessons learned and any changes required to procedures, risk assessments, training or individual support arrangements.

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