

Journey Education Group Allergy Safety Policy

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Policy: Allergy Safety Policy

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1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to establish a robust, whole-school framework to manage allergies and prevent allergic reactions. It is designed to ensure strict compliance with Benedict's Law (the statutory guidance for Allergy Safety in Schools) by:

- Ensuring a consistent, proactive approach to allergy awareness, risk reduction, and inclusion across the entire provision.
- Equipping all staff with the essential training needed to recognise the signs of anaphylaxis and respond to emergencies without delay.
- Guaranteeing rapid access to emergency medication, including spare adrenaline auto-injectors (AAIs), to protect staff, pupils, and visitors.
- Fostering a supportive, inclusive environment where children with allergies can participate safely in all aspects of school life.

2. Scope

This policy applies to the entirety of the provision's operations and personnel. It covers all individuals who are likely to be on-site at the same time as children, ensuring that safeguards are maintained during all educational, social, and extracurricular activities.

Specifically, this policy encompasses:

- **All School Personnel:** This includes teaching staff, learning coaches, administrative teams, catering staff and senior leadership team
- **Pupils & Visitors:** All pupils with diagnosed allergies, undiagnosed pupils experiencing anaphylaxis, and visitors to the school grounds.
- **School Activities On and Off-Site:** All educational settings and activities, including regular classroom learning, school celebrations, sports events, and both day and residential educational visits.

3. Individual Healthcare & Allergy Action Plans

- **Plan Creation:** Every pupil with a diagnosed allergy will have an Individual Healthcare Plan (IHP) or Allergy Action Plan created by the SENDco.

- **Collaboration:** Plans must be co-created with parents, carers, and healthcare professionals, and reviewed at least annually.
- **Allergy Register:** A centralised, up-to-date register with photos of students with allergies will be created, so they are easily identifiable to all staff.

4. Staff Training & Awareness

- **Mandatory Training:** All school personnel (including teaching, support, catering, administrative, and cleaning staff) will undergo annual allergy awareness and anaphylaxis training.
- **Symptom Recognition:** Training will cover the early signs of an allergic reaction and what to do in an emergency.

5. Emergency Response & Medication

- **Emergency Access:** Adrenaline auto-injectors (AAIs) will be stored in the school office or taken in the first aid kit for external outings including break. Pupils prescribed AAIs must have two in-date devices accessible to them at all times.
- **Spare Adrenaline:** "Spare" emergency adrenaline auto-injectors on-site for emergency use to be kept in the school office. Staff will be trained and confident in administering these life-saving devices.

Emergency Procedure: In the event of a suspected severe allergic reaction (anaphylaxis):

1. Administer the prescribed adrenaline auto-injector immediately (or utilise the school's spare AAI if the prescribed pen is unavailable).
2. **Call 999** for emergency medical services.
3. Notify the pupil's parents/carers.
4. If the pupil's condition does not improve, administer a second AAI 5 minutes after the first.
5. Even if the child appears to have recovered, they must be taken to the hospital for observation, and accompanied by a staff member until a parent arrives.

6. Risk Reduction & Environment

- **Whole-School Awareness:** Allergy safety will be integrated into every risk assessment—including science/DT lessons, school parties, whole-school events, and off-site educational visits.
- **Supervision:** Students with severe allergies will be supervised by a trained adult
- **Allergy Register** - Will be updated upon every new admission and shared with the whole team

7. Reporting and Governance

- **Incident Recording:** All incidents to be recorded on CPOMS
- **Review:** Formal meetings will be conducted if any incidents occur and near misses
- **Designated Lead:** This policy has been designed by the Assistant Head, SENDCo and Business manager who will be responsible for staff training records and parental communications. The SENDco will be responsible for updating IHP's and Allergy register upon new admissions.