



## Anaphylaxis Policy

Document History	
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<b>By:</b>	DH and MD
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## **Rationale**

There is no legal or contractual duty on teachers, administrative staff or support staff to administer medication or supervise a pupil taking medication. It is a purely voluntary role.

At Red Hall Primary we take seriously our duty of care and consent to administer medication, subject to the conditions set out in this policy. This policy sets out general guidance but each case will be dealt with on its own merits.

This document is a statement of the aims, principles and strategies used for supporting pupils with anaphylaxis within our school. The policy aims to take into account diversity and provide equality of opportunity. This policy is supported by the health and safety and pupils with medical needs policies.

This policy applies to all pupils in school which includes our two-year-old provision and nursery.

## **Definition**

Anaphylaxis is a severe, rapidly progressive allergic reaction that is potentially life threatening. The most common allergens in school aged children are peanuts, eggs, tree nuts (e.g. cashews), cow's milk, fish and shellfish, wheat, soy, sesame, latex, certain insect stings and medication.

The key to prevention Epipen® auto injector to the muscle of the outer mid-thigh is the most effective first aid treatment for anaphylaxis.

## **Aims**

The school:

- Welcomes all pupils with anaphylaxis
- Ensures that pupils with anaphylaxis can and do participate fully in all aspects of school life, including art lessons, PE, Cooking, Science, visits, outings and other out of school activities
- Keeps records of all pupils with anaphylaxis and medicines they take, including Epipens®
- Ensures that the whole school environment, including the physical, social, sporting and educational environment is favourable to pupils with anaphylaxis
- Ensures that all pupils understand anaphylaxis
- Ensures that all staff who come into contact with pupils with anaphylaxis know what to do in an anaphylaxis attack
- Will work in partnership with all interested parties to ensure that the policy is planned, implemented and maintained successfully.

## **Anaphylaxis Medicines**

All Epipens® must be prescribed by a doctor, and must have the medical instructions, including dosage, attached to the Epipen®. Epipens are kept in an emergency box clearly labelled with the child's name and are stored in the main school office and in the child's classroom, easily accessible to all staff.

Trained school staff are required to administer medicines to pupils and must dial 999 immediately stating Anaphylaxis.

Other medication must be administered in accordance with the school administration of medication policy.

Red Hall Primary now has an emergency EpiPen® in school. This will only be administered on the authority of the emergency services during an Anaphylaxis reaction.

### **Record Keeping**

At the beginning of each school year or when a child joins the school, parents/carers are asked if their child has any medical conditions. Parents of children with any medical condition are asked to come and meet with the medical team to complete a Care Plan for their child.

Records of children with food allergies are kept centrally and staff are made aware of where this is, and which children are affected.

School meals staff are aware of children with food allergies and are provided with up to date photographs and information.

A Care Plan will be in place as soon as practicable after the student enrolls and where possible before their first day of school.

The Care Plan will set out the following:

- Information about the diagnosis, including the type of allergy or allergies the student has (based on a diagnosis from a medical practitioner).
- Strategies to minimise the risk of exposure to allergens while the student is under the care of supervision of school staff, for in-school and out of school settings, including excursions.
- The name of the person/s responsible for implementing the strategies.
- Information on where the child's medication will be stored.
- The child's emergency contact details.
- An emergency procedures plan to be taken in the event of an allergic reaction, which has been agreed with the parent.
- Include an up to date photograph of the child.

The Care Plan will be reviewed, in consultation with the child's parent/carers:

- Annually, and as applicable,
- If the child's condition changes
- Immediately after a child has an anaphylactic reaction at school.

It is the responsibility of the parents to:

- Provide the school with up to date medical information, including any change to condition/medication.
- Provide the school with up to date contact telephone numbers
- Inform the school if an attack takes place out of school.

## **Activity**

Taking part in activities is an essential part of school life for all our pupils. All teachers know which children in their class have anaphylaxis. Pupils with anaphylaxis are encouraged to participate fully in all activities. It is the responsibility of the class teacher to inform parents of any activities that may hold a risk of an anaphylaxis attack to the child.

## **Out of Hours Activity**

All pupils at Red Hall Primary are encouraged to participate in after school activities. Teachers and out-of-hours school activity providers are aware of the potential triggers for pupils with anaphylaxis. Children and staff follow the same procedures as outlined in the previous section.

## **School Environment**

Within Red Hall Primary we ensure the school environment is favourable to pupils with anaphylaxis. Our school does not keep furry or feathery animals and has a non-smoking policy. The school does not use materials in science, art, D.T and cookery lessons that are potential triggers for pupils with anaphylaxis. All areas are thoroughly cleaned before and after use.

## **Anaphylaxis Attacks**

# **An anaphylaxis attack is an emergency situation.**

All staff who come into contact with pupils with anaphylaxis know what to do in the event of an anaphylaxis attack.

- Send a member of staff/child to the office for the Emergency box and inform the office staff to dial 999 and contact parents.
- Ensure that the Epipen® is administered immediately.
- Stay calm and reassure the child.
- If attack is not improving after 5 minutes, administer second Epipen®.