



Allergy and Anaphylaxis Policy

Our Shared Vision

Striving for excellence in everything we do

High Quality
Education for
ALL

Effective
home/school
and community
partnerships

Equality Mission Statement

We are committed to ensuring equality of educational opportunity and support for all pupils, parents, carers, staff and visitors irrespective of age, sex, race, disability, religion or belief, sexual orientation, pregnancy, gender reassignment, and socio-economic background. We aim to provide a fully inclusive school in which every person feels proud of their identity and is able to participate fully within the school community. We believe that a diverse school community is a strength which should be respected and celebrated by all those who learn, teach and visit here.

Approved by: Site & Financial Management Committee	Date:
Signature (Chair of Committee):	Signature (Headteacher):

Last review date: March 2026	Next review date: March 2027
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This policy covers many of the articles from the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. Some key ones are listed below.

Article 3

All organisations concerned with children should work towards what is best for each child.

Article 6

Children have the right to live a full life. Governments should ensure that children survive and develop healthily.

Article 12

Children have the right to say what they think should happen when adults are making decisions that affect them and to have their opinions considered.

Article 18

Both parents share responsibility for bringing up their children and should always consider what is best for each child. Governments should help parents by providing services to support them, especially if both parents work.

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DISTRIBUTION OF COPIES

Master Copy	Head Teacher
Copy One	School Nurse / Healthcare professional
Copy Two	All First Aiders
Copy Three	Staff Room – all staff

This policy document will be provided to the parents/carers of a child with an AAI in school and accessible to all parents/carers via the school website.

OTHER RELATED POLICIES

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following:

- Health & Safety Policy
- First Aid Policy (contained within the Health & Safety Policy)
- Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy
- Children with Health needs who cannot attend school Policy

DEFINITION

Anaphylaxis is a severe, potentially life-threatening allergic reaction. It can occur within seconds or minutes of exposure to something that someone is allergic to.

Common triggers include:

- Foods
- Medicines
- Insect stings
- General anaesthetic (NHS)

As nuts are a common food trigger, the school has adopted a No Nuts Statement (See appendix B)

STATEMENT OF INTENT

This Anaphylaxis Policy forms part of Becontree Primary School's overall policy on First Aid and Medicines.

The school recognises that Anaphylaxis is a widespread condition and that its severity varies considerably. As with any other medical condition, we are committed to ensuring that any pupils with allergies are fully supported at school.

Procedures for administering medicines and providing first aid are in place and are reviewed regularly.

We will ensure all staff (including supply staff) are aware of First Aid arrangements and that sufficient trained staff are available to implement this policy and deliver against all individual healthcare plans, including in contingency and emergency situations.

BACKGROUND

From 1st October 2017 the Human Medicines (Amendment) Regulations 2017 has allowed schools to buy AAIs, without a prescription, for use in emergencies. The school has decided to have such AAIs available for emergency use.

The emergency AAI will only be used by children, for whom written parental consent (see Annex A) for use of the emergency AAI has been given, who have been diagnosed with Anaphylaxis and prescribed an AAI. These children should have a current HCP or have one pending.

The AAI can be used if the pupil's prescribed AAI is not available, e.g. because it is faulty.

This policy follows guidance developed by the Department of Health – www.gov.uk/government/publications/using-emergency-adrenaline-auto-injectors-in-schools

ARRANGEMENTS

Under our First Aid & Medicines Policy, parents are required to notify the school of any medical condition so that their child can receive appropriate support. The parents are required to give their consent to the administering or supervising administration of the child's own AAI. At the same time they will be asked to give their consent to the use of the emergency AAI if for any reason the child's own AAI is not available.

Note: *The main risk of allowing schools to hold an AAI for emergency use is that it may be administered inappropriately to a child who does not have anaphylaxis. It is essential therefore that schools ensure that the AAI is only used by children who have been prescribed an AAI and for whom written parental consent has been given.*

STORAGE OF PUPIL'S OWN AAIs

AAIs clearly need to be quickly accessible in the event of an allergic reaction. Pupil's AAIs will be clearly labelled and stored away from direct sunlight, and extremes of temperature, in the First Aid Room.

In extreme circumstances, such as severe need, children will be allowed to carry their own when they are considered mature enough to do so, otherwise when need dictates the AAI will be managed by the class teacher/adult.

SUPPLY, STORAGE CARE AND DISPOSAL OF EMERGENCY AAIS

The school will purchase AAIs from a reputable pharmaceutical supplier, such as the local pharmacy.

The school will hold one Junior AAI (150 microgram) and one AAI (300 Microgram). The school will also hold;

- Instructions on using the AAI
- instructions on storing the AAI;

- manufacturer's information; a checklist of AAI's, identified by their batch number and expiry date, with monthly checks recorded;
- a list of children permitted to use the emergency AAI (parental consent);
- a record of administration (i.e. when the AAI has been used).

The following staff member is responsible for storage, care and re-stocking of the AAI:

- **Mrs M Smallman – Admin (Welfare) Assistant**

She will ensure (and keep records) that:

- on a monthly basis AAI's are present and in working order,
- replacement AAI's are obtained when expiry dates approach

The emergency AAI's will be stored in the first aid room

They will be kept separate from any pupil's AAI's which are stored nearby and will be clearly labelled to avoid confusion with pupil's own AAI's.

USE OF EMERGENCY AAI

The emergency AAI will only be used by pupils:

- who have been diagnosed with anaphylaxis, and prescribed with an AAI;
- **AND** for whom written parental consent (see Annex A) for use of the emergency AAI has been given. This consent form will be stored with the child's AAI and consent recorded on a list with the emergency AAI's.

DISPOSAL

Once an AAI has been used it cannot be reused and must be disposed of according to manufacturers guidelines. Used AAI's can be given to the ambulance staff on arrival or can be disposed of in a pre-ordered sharps bin for collection by the local council.

DAY TO DAY SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF ALLERGIC REACTION

- Swollen lips, face or eyes
- Itchy/tingling mouth
- Hives or red itchy skin rash
- Abdominal pain, vomiting or diarrhoea
- Sudden change in behaviour
- Sneezing, runny or blocked nose
- Red watery itchy eyes
- Wheezy cough

SIGNS OF ANAPHYLAXIS (life threatening allergic reaction)

- Persistent cough
- Hoarse Voice
- Difficulty swallowing, swollen tongue and throat
- Difficulty breathing
- Persistent dizziness or light headedness
- Becoming pale or floppy
- Suddenly sleepy, collapse, unconscious
- Confusion
- Blue skin or lips

Mild-moderate symptoms are usually responsive to an antihistamine. The child does not normally need to be sent home from school or require urgent medical attention. However, mild reactions can develop into anaphylaxis, children having a mild-moderate reaction should therefore be monitored closely.

WHAT TO DO IF ANY SYMPTOMS OF ANAPHYLAXIS ARE PRESENT

Anaphylaxis commonly occurs together with mild symptoms or signs of allergy, such as skin rash or itchy mouth. Anaphylaxis can also occur on its own without any mild signs. In the presence of any severe symptoms, it is vital that an AAI is administered without delay.

You should administer the pupils own AAI if available. The AAI can be administered through clothing and should be injected into the upper outer thigh in line with the manufacturer's instructions.

Do not move the child, as standing someone up with anaphylaxis can trigger cardiac arrest. Provide reassurance. The child should lie down with their legs raised, if breathing is difficult allow the child to sit.

ALWAYS CALL 999 AND REQUEST AN AMBULANCE WHEN AN AAI IS USED

When dialling 999, inform the controller that the person is suffering from anaphylaxis and an AAI has been administered.

RECORDING USE OF THE AAI & INFORMING PARENTS/CARERS

Use of the AAI should be recorded. This should include where and when the episode took place, e.g. PE lesson, playground, classroom and the member of staff administering medication. *Our policy Supporting pupils with Medical Conditions* requires written records to be kept of all medicines administered to children.

Any use of an AAI must be communicated to parents as soon as possible. If the emergency AAI is used the parent will be informed and a new AAI will be ordered immediately.

STAFF TRAINING

All staff are expected to be:

- aware of the anaphylaxis policy and how to access it;
- aware of how to check if a child requires an AAI;
- aware of how to access the AAI;
- aware of who the designated members of staff are.

The school will ensure that designated staff are trained in:

- recognising an allergic reaction, and distinguishing them from other conditions with similar symptoms;
- responding appropriately to a request for help from another member of staff;
- recognising when emergency action is necessary;
- administering AAI in line with the schools policy;
- keeping appropriate records.
- Undergoing yearly training lead by an designated school nurse.

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Headteacher: Mrs M. Ziane

Deputy Head (EYFS/KS1): Mrs C. Stock

Deputy Head (KS2): Mrs L. Stonier

PARENTAL CONSENT FORM: USE OF CHILD'S AAI MEDICATION (AND THE USE OF AN EMERGENCY AAI)

1. I can confirm that my child has been diagnosed with anaphylaxis and has been prescribed an AAI.
2. My child has 2 in-date AAI, clearly labelled with their name, which has been provided to the school office.
3. In the event of my child displaying symptoms of allergic reaction, I consent to the school administering their AAI.
4. If their own AAI is not available or is unusable, I consent for them to receive an emergency AAI held by the school for such emergencies.

Child's name: Class:

Parent/Carer Name & Address:

.....

.....

Telephone contact number:

E-mail address:

Signed: Date:

Nut Free Statement

ANNEX B

Why are we a Nut Free School?

- ✓ To keep children and adults who are allergic to nuts, safe.

Did you know that adults and children who suffer from nut allergies...?



Can have a severe, potentially **life-threatening allergic reaction**.



Can have a severe reaction by just **being touched** on the skin by someone who has eaten nuts.



Can have a severe reaction by just **smelling the breath of someone** who has eaten nuts.



Below are some examples of foods to avoid when making your child's packed lunch...

X Peanut butter	X Chocolate spreads
X Some granola bars	X Cereal bars
X Biscuits/cookies that contain nuts	X Cakes that contain nuts
X Peanut butter cakes	X Sauces that contain nuts, e.g. satay sauce

This list does not include all foods that contain nuts, so please check the packaging of products carefully.