

Christ Church C.E. School

Pupil Allergy Policy



Christ Church C of E Primary School
Regents Park
NW1 4BD

‘For we are all God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do’.

Ephesians 2:10

Vision and Values

The Christian faith is at the heart of our school community.

At Christ Church we all care, learn and work together for God and others.

‘For we are all God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do’. Ephesians 2:10

Our Christian Values are

Creation, Community, Endurance, Thankfulness, Reconciliation, Wisdom

The distinctive nature of our approach to education can be found in our explicit Christian values, our collective worship, our grounded Christian ethos, our carefully crafted curriculum and in our Religious Education.

We aim to provide ambitious learning opportunities, promoting achievement in every area and nurturing social, emotional and spiritual well-being.

We actively promote the children’s cultural capital (defined as the acquisition of skills and knowledge which an individual can draw on to give them an advantage in life). We will introduce them to strong role models who will impart their knowledge and wisdom to help the children engender an appreciation of human creativity and achievement and to become responsible local and global citizens.

Character and resilience are the qualities we promote within our children, developing the inner resources that we call on to help us in life. We instil these qualities in our children to make sure that they are ready to make their way in the world as robust, confident and inquisitive individuals.

We know that confidence, knowledge and skills will help them to become compassionate and well balanced young people. We want them to take their place in society as active citizens, economically independent, exemplifying the British values of equality, mutual respect, democracy, individual liberty and rule of law.

We use our six Christian values, Creation, Wisdom, Thankfulness, Community Endurance and Reconciliation, to reinforce and enrich our teaching wherever applicable.

- **Creation**
For every house is built by someone, but God is the builder of everything. Hebrews 3:4
- **Wisdom**
For the LORD gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding. Proverbs 2:6
- **Thankfulness**
Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever. 1 Chronicles 16:34
- **Community**
My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. John 15:12
- **Endurance**
Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Galatians 6:9
- **Reconciliation**
Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. Colossians 3:13

Our vision is inclusive and seeks to promote the whole child thrive within our Christ Church family.

Each member of our Christ church family; children, parents and staff are valued as God’s creation. We believe in full inclusion and acceptance of all and that this allows every individual to flourish

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1. Aims

This policy aims to:

- › Set out our school's approach to allergy management, including reducing the risk of exposure and the procedures in place in case of allergic reaction
- › Make clear how our school supports pupils with allergies to ensure their wellbeing and inclusion
- › Promote and maintain allergy awareness among the school community

2. Legislation and guidance

This policy is based on the Department for Education (DfE)'s guidance on allergies in schools and supporting pupils with medical conditions at school, the Department of Health and Social Care's guidance on using emergency adrenaline auto-injectors in schools, and the following legislation:

- › The Food Information Regulations 2014
- › The Food Information (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2019

3. Roles and responsibilities

We take a whole-school approach to allergy awareness.

3.1 Allergy lead

The nominated allergy lead is Michael Ritson.

They're responsible for:

- › Promoting and maintaining allergy awareness across our school community
- › Recording and collating allergy and special dietary information for all relevant pupils
- › Ensuring:

- All allergy information is up to date and readily available to relevant members of staff
 - All pupils with allergies have an allergy action plan completed by a medical professional
 - All staff receive an appropriate level of allergy training
 - All staff are aware of the school's policy and procedures regarding allergies
 - Relevant staff are aware of what activities need an allergy risk assessment
- › Keeping stock of the school's adrenaline auto-injectors (AAIs)
 - › Regularly reviewing and updating the allergy policy

3.2 School nurse/medical officer

The school nurse/medical officer is responsible for:

- › Co-ordinating the paperwork and information from families
- › Co-ordinating medication with families
- › Checking spare AAIs are in date
- › Any other appropriate tasks delegated by the allergy lead

3.3 Teaching and support staff

All teaching and support staff are responsible for:

- › Promoting and maintaining allergy awareness among pupils
- › Maintaining awareness of our allergy policy and procedures
- › Being able to recognise the signs of severe allergic reactions and anaphylaxis
- › Attending appropriate allergy training as required
- › Being aware of specific pupils with allergies in their care
- › Carefully considering the use of food or other potential allergens in lesson and activity planning
- › Ensuring the wellbeing and inclusion of pupils with allergies

3.4 Parents/carers

Parents/carers are responsible for:

- › Being aware of our school's allergy policy
- › Providing the school with up-to-date details of their child's medical needs, dietary requirements, and any history of allergies, reactions and anaphylaxis
- › If required, providing their child with 2 in-date adrenaline auto-injectors and any other medication, including inhalers, antihistamine etc., and making sure these are replaced in a timely manner
- › Carefully considering the food they provide to their child as packed lunches and snacks, and trying to limit the number of allergens included
- › Following the school's guidance on food brought in to be shared
- › Updating the school on any changes to their child's condition

3.5 Pupils with allergies

These pupils are responsible for:

- › Being aware of their allergens and the risks they pose
- › Understanding how and when to use their adrenaline auto-injector

- › If age-appropriate, carrying their adrenaline auto-injector on their person and only using it for its intended purpose

3.6 Pupils without allergies

These pupils are responsible for:

- › Being aware of allergens and the risk they pose to their peers

4. Assessing risk

The school will conduct a risk assessment for any pupil at risk of anaphylaxis taking part in:

- › Lessons such as food technology
- › Science experiments involving foods
- › Crafts using food packaging
- › Off-site events and school trips
- › Any other activities involving animals or food, such as animal handling experiences or baking

A risk assessment for any pupil at risk of an allergic reaction will also be carried out where a visitor requires a guide dog.

5. Managing risk

5.1 Hygiene procedures

- › Pupils are reminded to wash their hands before and after eating
- › Sharing of food is not allowed
- › Pupils have their own named water bottles

5.2 Catering

The school is committed to providing safe food options to meet the dietary needs of pupils with allergies.

- › Catering staff receive appropriate training and are able to identify pupils with allergies
- › School menus are available for parents/carers to view with ingredients clearly labelled
- › Where changes are made to school menus, we will make sure these continue to meet any special dietary needs of pupils
- › Food allergen information relating to the 'top 14' allergens is displayed on the packaging of all food products, allowing pupils and staff to make safer choices. Allergen information labelling will follow all legal requirements that apply to naming the food and listing ingredients, as outlined by the Food Standards Agency (FSA)
- › Catering staff follow hygiene and allergy procedures when preparing food to avoid cross-contamination

5.3 Food restrictions

Our school is a nut free school. However, we would like to encourage pupils and staff to avoid certain high-risk foods to reduce the chances of someone experiencing a reaction. These foods include:

- › Packaged nuts
- › Cereal, granola or chocolate bars containing nuts
- › Peanut butter or chocolate spreads containing nuts
- › Peanut-based sauces, such as satay
- › Sesame seeds and foods containing sesame seeds

If a pupil brings these foods into school, they may be asked to eat them away from others to minimise the risk, or the food may be confiscated.

5.4 Insect bites/stings

When outdoors:

- › Shoes should always be worn
- › Food and drink should be covered

5.5 Animals

- › All pupils will always wash hands after interacting with animals to avoid putting pupils with allergies at risk through later contact
- › Pupils with animal allergies will not interact with animals

5.6 Support for mental health

Pupils with allergies will have additional support through:

- › Pastoral care
- › Regular check-ins with their class teacher.

5.7 Events and school trips

- › For events, including ones that take place outside of the school, and school trips, no pupils with allergies will be excluded from taking part
- › The school will plan accordingly for all events and school trips, and arrange for the staff members involved to be aware of pupils' allergies and to have received adequate training
- › Appropriate measures will be taken in line with the schools AAI protocols for off-site events and school trips (see section 7.5).

6. Procedures for handling an allergic reaction

6.1 Register of pupils with AAls

- › The school maintains a register of pupils who have been prescribed AAls or where a doctor has provided a written plan recommending AAls to be used in the event of anaphylaxis. The register includes:
 - Known allergens and risk factors for anaphylaxis
 - Whether a pupil has been prescribed AAI(s) (and if so, what type and dose)
 - Where a pupil has been prescribed an AAI, whether parental consent has been given for use of the spare AAI, which may be different to the personal AAI prescribed for the pupil
 - A photograph of each pupil to allow a visual check to be made
- › The register is kept in the medical room and can be checked quickly by any member of staff as part of initiating an emergency response.

6.2 Allergic reaction procedures

- › As part of the whole-school awareness approach to allergies, all staff are trained in the school's allergic reaction procedure, and to recognise the signs of anaphylaxis and respond appropriately

- › Staff are trained in the administration of AAI's to minimise delays in pupil's receiving adrenaline in an emergency
- › If a pupil has an allergic reaction, the staff member will initiate the school's emergency response plan, following the pupil's allergy action plan
 - If an AAI needs to be administered, a member of staff will use the pupil's own AAI, or if it is not available, a school one
- › If the pupil has no allergy action plan, staff will follow the school's procedures on responding to allergy and, if needed, the school's normal emergency procedures
- › A school AAI device will be used instead of the pupil's own AAI device if:
 - Medical authorisation and written parental consent have been provided, or
 - The pupil's own prescribed AAI(s) are not immediately available (for example, because they are broken, out-of-date, have misfired or been wrongly administered)
- › If a pupil needs to be taken to hospital, staff will stay with the pupil until the parent/carer arrives, or accompany the pupil to hospital by ambulance
- › If the allergic reaction is mild (e.g. skin rash, itching or sneezing), the pupil will be monitored and the parents/carers informed

7. Adrenaline auto-injectors (AAIs)

7.1 Purchasing of spare AAIs

The allergy lead is responsible for buying AAIs and ensuring they are stored according to the guidance.

- › AAIs will be sourced from Kings Pharmacy, Albany St, NW1 4BU
- › The school will purchase and have 2 spare AAIs on site.
- › For children age under 6 years: the school will have x1 Epi-Pen Junior (0.15 mg)
- › For children age 6-12 years and adults: the school will have x1 Epi-Pen (0.3 mg)

7.2 Storage (of both spare and prescribed AAIs)

The allergy lead will make sure all AAIs are:

- › Stored at room temperature (in line with manufacturer's guidelines), protected from direct sunlight and extremes of temperature
- › Kept in a safe and suitably central location to which all staff have access at all times, but is out of the reach and sight of children
- › **Not** locked away, but accessible and available for use at all times
- › **Not** located more than 5 minutes away from where they may be needed
- › Spare AAIs will be kept separate from any pupil's own prescribed AAI, and clearly labelled to avoid confusion.

7.3 Maintenance (of spare AAIs)

Michael Ritson and Denise Cooper are responsible for checking monthly that:

- › The AAIs are present and in date
- › Replacement AAIs are obtained when the expiry date is near

7.4 Disposal

AAIs can only be used once. Once a AAI has been used, it will be disposed of in line with the manufacturer's instructions (for example, in a sharps bin for collection by the local council).

7.5 Use of AAIs off school premises

- › The trip leader will ensure that all pupils at risk of anaphylaxis have their AAI available and will carry the AAI during school trips and off-site events.

7.6 Emergency anaphylaxis kit

The school holds an emergency anaphylaxis kit. This includes:

- › Spare AAIs
- › Instructions for the use of AAIs
- › Instructions on storage
- › Manufacturer's information
- › A checklist of injectors, identified by batch number and expiry date with monthly checks recorded
- › A note of arrangements for replacing injectors
- › A list of pupils to whom the AAI can be administered
- › A record of when AAIs have been administered

8. Training

The school is committed to training all staff in allergy response. This includes:

- › How to reduce and prevent the risk of allergic reactions
- › How to spot the signs of allergic reactions (including anaphylaxis)
- › The importance of acting quickly in the case of anaphylaxis
- › Where AAIs are kept on the school site, and how to access them
- › How to administer AAIs
- › The wellbeing and inclusion implications of allergies

Training will be carried out annually by the allergy lead or school nurse.

9. Links to other policies

This policy links to the following policies and procedures:

- › Health and safety policy
- › Supporting pupils with medical conditions policy