



Our Vision
RESPONSIBILITY
RESPECT
RESILIENCE

**A shining light in our
community**

You are the light of the world. A
city on a hill cannot be hidden. -
Matthew 5:14b

Allergy Policy

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Related Documents	Medical needs policy, medication policy, first aid policy	
Guidance	• Education policy 2003, Health & Safety at work etc act & first aid regulations 1981 • Guidance on Health protection in schools and other childcare settings • Food safety regulations 2014 • Natashas Law • Food information regulations 2014	
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Introduction

An allergy is a reaction of the body's immune system to substances that are usually harmless. The reaction can cause minor symptoms such as itching, sneezing or rashes but sometimes causes a much more serious reaction called anaphylaxis.

Anaphylaxis is a serious, life-threatening allergic reaction. It is at the extreme end of the allergic spectrum. The whole body is affected often within minutes of exposure to the allergen, but sometimes it can be hours later. Causes can include foods, insect stings, and drugs.

Most healthcare professionals consider an allergic reaction to be anaphylaxis when it involves difficulty breathing or affects the heart rhythm or blood pressure. Anaphylaxis symptoms are often referred to as the ABC symptoms (Airway, Breathing, Circulation).

Scope

This policy applies to pupils at Bradford Academy primary and secondary and includes managing the risk of allergic reaction when pupils are under the care of school staff away from the school site

This policy identifies the most common UK Allergens: Peanuts, Tree Nuts, Sesame, Milk, Egg, Fish, Latex, Insect venom, Pollen and Animal Dander.

It is acknowledged that it is possible to be allergic to anything which contains a protein, and it is not limited to the list above.

Legislation & Guidelines

[Home - BSACI](#)

[Homepage | Food Standards Agency](#)

[Food Safety Act 1990 & The Food Safety and Hygiene \(England\) Regulations 2013](#)

[The Food Information Regulations 2014](#)

[Natasha's legacy becomes law - GOV.UK](#)

[Benedict's Law - Benedict Blythe Foundation](#)

[Food Regulation | Anaphylaxis UK](#)

Objectives

To ensure pupils with known allergies are identified and measures put in place to protect them from the risks presented by exposure to their allergen

To enable appropriate support for pupils with allergies, to ensure they are safe at school; and are not disadvantaged in any way whilst taking part in school life.

To ensure compliance with national guidance (DofE) and standards (DofH and NICE) in the management of severe allergy and use of Adrenaline Auto Injectors (AAIs) in school.

Roles and responsibilities

Parent Responsibilities

- On entry to the school, it is the parent's responsibility to inform staff in the academy if the child has any allergies. This information should include all previous serious allergic reactions, history of anaphylaxis and details of all prescribed medication.
- Parents are to supply a copy of their child's Allergy Action Plan (BSACI plans preferred) to school. If they do not currently have an Allergy Action Plan this should be developed as soon as possible in collaboration with a healthcare professional e.g. GP/allergy specialist.
- Parents are responsible for ensuring any required medication is supplied, in date and replaced as necessary.
- Parents are requested to keep the school up to date with any changes in allergy management. The Allergy Action Plan will be kept updated accordingly.
- To not send home baked goods into the academy or any sweets, liquids or foodstuff that may contain allergens.

The Senior Leadership Team Responsibilities

- Ensuring provision of allergy management and anaphylaxis training for all school staff and allowing staff time to complete this.
- Ensuring any staff employed who have any responsibility for pupils in school and off site are deemed competent to implement this policy

All Staff Responsibilities

- All school staff will complete Kitt Medical anaphylaxis training once yearly. Staff can arrange a practical AAI familiarity session with the academy first aider once per year or more frequently if they feel they need it.
- To be aware of the pupils in their care (regular or cover classes) who have known allergies as an allergic reaction could occur at any time and not just at mealtimes.
- Any food-related activities must be planned with consideration of pupils with known allergies and advice sought from first aid / SENDCo. This includes timetabled classroom activities.
- To check pupils are always carrying their AAIs; including lessons, sports, mealtimes and school activities

- To remind pupils not to bring any food items or potential allergens into school

Staff taking pupils off site

- are responsible for collecting any emergency supplies (antihistamine medication and inhalers) from first aid and for checking pupils have their own Adrenaline Auto Injector (AAIs) with them.
- Pupils will not be able to attend off site trips or activities without their emergency medication (AAIs)
- Staff must know where the AAIs are always while offsite

Catering Staff Responsibilities

- To familiarise themselves with information provided by the catering manager regarding pupils with allergies and severity of those allergies
- To identify these pupils when serving food and assist them in making appropriate food choices
- To check food allergens on packaging before providing food to pupils
- to implement measures to prevent cross contamination during the handling, preparation and serving of food

Chef Manager Responsibilities

- To ensure catering staff are competent in meeting their responsibilities in respect of this policy.
- To ensure serious allergy lists with individual pupil photographs are always available for staff to view to enable them to check specific allergens.
- To plan menus and catering options which minimise the risk of pupils with severe allergies being exposed to their allergens. Where possible these foods should not be offered in school.
- When avoidance of these foods is unavoidable in school they must be clearly labelled, and measures put in place to avoid cross contamination.

First Aid Responsibilities

- To flag any food or non-food allergies on a learners individual record
- To disseminate this information to catering, teaching and support staff as appropriate.
- To maintain an accurate list of those pupils with severe allergies who have been prescribed an adrenaline auto injector (AAI) This should include each pupil's photograph, details of their allergy, and where their Adrenaline Auto Injector is kept.
- To ensure that the up-to-date Allergy Action Plan is kept with the pupil's emergency medication.
- To check medication kept at school on a termly basis and send a reminder to parents if medication is approaching expiry.

- To record use of any AAI(s) and emergency treatment given.
- To be available to discuss individual allergy action plans with teachers on request and give opportunity to practice administration of AAI using training pens. This is to supplement (not replace) whole school allergy management training.

Food that is brought into the Academy

Packed Lunches

- parents / carers must not send nuts in any form as part of a child's packed lunch.
- This includes all forms of loose nuts, nut bars, cereal bars with nut content or nut spreads (including Nutella or other chocolate nut spreads).
- Where a child has any other allergy that can impact a child through air transference, it may be communicated to families that this item will be unexpected across the time the child attends the academy.
- This also applies to staff lunches brought in from home.

Events

- There will be no home baked goods distributed through the Academy at any phase.
- Where shop bought items are used, the full ingredients must be displayed.
- Shop bought items must not contain nuts.
- A responsible adult must assist learners in choosing safe food products.
- Learners will only participate in sharing food at community events under the watch

Offices

- No nut containing products can be consumed any office
- Where gifts have been given that contain nuts, they must remain sealed until they can leave the academy.

Reasonable Limits

There are many foodstuffs that do not contain allergens, but which are labelled as 'may contain' or being produced in factories that cannot be guaranteed to be allergen free due to the potential for cross contamination in preparation.

It cannot reasonably be expected that all these items be kept out of the academy. Items so packed and labelled will be permitted in the academy in limited and controlled circumstances i.e. packed lunches or snacks provided by the academy. Ingredients in products should be checked and should be used to inform decisions regarding acceptable use of a product in the academy

(currently, ingredients that may cause an allergic reaction are listed on products in bold).

Airway:

- Swollen tongue
- Difficulty swallowing/speaking
- Throat tightness
- Change in voice (hoarse or croaky sounds)

Breathing:

- Difficult or noisy breathing
- Chest tightness
- Persistent cough
- Wheeze (whistling noise due to a narrowed airway)

Circulation:

- Feeling dizzy or faint
- Collapse
- Babies and young children may suddenly become floppy and pale
- Loss of consciousness (unresponsive)

Action to be taken

- Position is important -lie the person flat with legs raised (or sit them up if having breathing problems)
- Give adrenaline – WITHOUT DELAY – if an AAI is available
- Bring the AAI to the person having anaphylaxis, and not the other way round. Avoid standing or moving someone having anaphylaxis
- Call an ambulance (999) and tell the operator it is anaphylaxis
- Stay with the person until medical help arrives
- If symptoms do not improve within five minutes of a first dose of adrenaline, give a second dose using another AAI
- A person who has a serious allergic reaction and/ or is given adrenaline should always be taken to hospital for further observation and treatment
- Sometimes anaphylaxis symptoms can recur after the first episode has been treated. This is called a biphasic reaction.