

Part 2 School Contextual Allergy Policy

Bingham Primary School

The designated Allergy Lead at Bingham Primary School is the Headteacher, supported by the SENDCo and identified First Aid Leads. The Allergy Lead is responsible for:

- Ensuring all pupils with known allergies are identified and appropriately supported.
- Maintaining accurate records of pupils with allergies and asthma.
- Ensuring Individual Healthcare Plans (IHPs) are in place and reviewed regularly.
- Overseeing staff training in allergy awareness, anaphylaxis and asthma management.
- Monitoring the storage and expiry dates of prescribed and emergency medication.
- Reviewing incidents and implementing lessons learned.
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Identification of Pupils, Staff and Visitors with Allergies

The school identifies individuals with allergies through:

- Admission and medical information forms.
- Updates provided by parents/carers and staff.
- Information shared by healthcare professionals.
- Individual Healthcare Plans.
- Visitor disclosures where appropriate.

Information is shared with relevant staff whilst maintaining confidentiality and data protection requirements.

Minimising the Risk of Exposure to Allergens

The school takes reasonable steps to reduce the risk of exposure to known allergens by:

- Maintaining an up-to-date register of allergies.
- Ensuring staff are aware of pupils' specific allergens.
- Conducting risk assessments for pupils with severe allergies.
- Implementing allergen-aware practices within classrooms and communal areas.
- Promoting good handwashing and cleaning routines.
- Discouraging food sharing between pupils.
- Ensuring any identified high-risk allergens are appropriately managed.

Food Allergy Management and Allergen Information

Where food is provided by the school:

- Allergen information will be obtained from suppliers and made available where required.
- Catering staff will be informed of known pupil allergies.
- Parents/carers remain responsible for informing the school of any allergy changes.
- School staff will work with families to reduce risks whilst enabling pupils to participate fully in school life.
- Individual risk assessments will be completed where necessary.

Staff Training

Relevant staff receive training on:

- Allergy awareness and prevention.
- Recognition of allergic reactions.
- Use of adrenaline auto-injectors.
- Recognition and management of acute asthma attacks.
- Emergency response procedures.

Training is refreshed regularly and following any significant changes in guidance or pupil needs.

Access to Prescribed Medication

Pupils diagnosed as being at risk of anaphylaxis and/or asthma are expected to have their prescribed medication available in school.

The school will:

- Ensure adrenaline auto-injectors and inhalers are readily accessible.
- Clearly identify storage locations known to staff.
- Ensure medication accompanies pupils during educational visits and off-site activities.
- Encourage age-appropriate independence in managing medication where advised by healthcare professionals.

Spare Adrenaline Auto-Injectors and Asthma Inhalers

The school maintains emergency spare adrenaline auto-injectors and emergency asthma inhalers in accordance with current Department for Education guidance.

The school will:

- Store devices securely but accessibly.
- Maintain records of location and expiry dates.
- Complete regular checks to ensure medication remains in date.
- Use spare medication only where permitted by legislation and parental consent arrangements.

Educational Visits and Trips

Risk assessments for educational visits consider the needs of children with allergies and asthma.

The school will ensure:

- Emergency medication accompanies the pupil.
- Staff attending visits know how to recognise and respond to allergic reactions and asthma attacks.
- Appropriate supervision arrangements are in place.
- Venues and activity providers are informed of relevant medical needs where necessary.

No child will be excluded from a visit solely because of an allergy where reasonable adjustments can be made.

Individual Healthcare Plans

Children and young people requiring specific allergy support arrangements will have an Individual Healthcare Plan.

Plans will include:

- Details of allergens and triggers.
- Signs and symptoms of allergic reactions.
- Medication requirements.
- Emergency procedures.
- Named responsible adults.
- Arrangements for school activities, visits and extracurricular participation.

Plans will be reviewed at least annually and sooner if needs change.

Promoting Wellbeing

Bingham Primary School recognises that living with allergies can affect emotional wellbeing.

The school will:

- Promote a culture of inclusion and understanding.
- Support pupils to participate fully in school life.
- Address any bullying, discrimination or exclusion linked to medical conditions.
- Work collaboratively with families and healthcare professionals.
- Encourage pupils to develop confidence and self-management skills appropriate to their age.

Reporting Serious Incidents and Near Misses

Any serious allergic reaction, administration of emergency medication, or significant near miss will be reported to the Local School Board (LSB) through the school's established reporting procedures.

Following an incident:

- A review will be undertaken by senior leaders.
- Contributory factors will be identified.
- Actions required to reduce future risk will be implemented.
- Findings and lessons learned will be shared with relevant staff.
- Policies, procedures, risk assessments and training arrangements will be updated where necessary.

The school is committed to continuous improvement in allergy management and the prevention of avoidable incidents.

