



Issue number:	001
Responsible:	Headteacher
Approved by:	
Date:	
Review date:	

Statement of Intent

Westfield Primary School is committed to ensuring the safety, wellbeing and full inclusion of pupils with allergies. From September 2026, all maintained schools, academies and PRUs must comply with the statutory requirements introduced through Benedict's Law, which strengthens legal protections for children with allergies. The Department for Education's statutory guidance *Allergy Safety in Schools* (published July 2026) sets out mandatory expectations for schools.

This policy fulfils our legal duty to:

- Maintain and publish a dedicated whole-school allergy policy.
- Provide allergy awareness and emergency response training for all staff.
- Stock spare adrenaline auto-injectors (AAIs) for emergency use.
- Implement Individual Healthcare Plans (IHPs) for pupils with allergies.
- Record, review and learn from incidents and near misses.
- Appoint a named senior leader responsible for allergy safety.

Scope

This policy applies to:

- All pupils, staff, visitors and contractors on site.
- All school activities, including lessons, breaktimes, clubs, trips and residential.
- All catering and food-related activities.

Roles and Responsibilities

Governing Body

- Ensure compliance with Benedict's Law and DfE statutory guidance.
- Monitor implementation and review annually.

Headteacher

- Ensure operational compliance and resourcing.
- Oversee training, risk management and emergency procedures.

Named Senior Allergy Lead

- Lead on policy implementation and review.
- Maintain the allergy register and oversee IHPs.
- Coordinate staff training and incident reporting.
- Ensure spare AAIs are in-date, accessible and checked monthly.

All Staff

- Complete mandatory allergy awareness and emergency response training.
- Follow pupils' IHPs and emergency procedures.
- Report incidents and near misses promptly.

Parents/Carers

- Provide accurate medical information and updates.
- Supply prescribed AAls and ensure they remain in date.
- Work with school to develop and review IHPs.

Identification and Management of Pupils with Allergies

Allergy Register

The school maintains a secure, up-to-date register of all pupils with diagnosed allergies, including triggers, severity, symptoms and prescribed medication.

Individual Healthcare Plans (IHPs)

All pupils with allergies will have an IHP that includes:

- Allergy triggers and risk factors
- Symptoms of mild, moderate and severe reactions
- Emergency response steps
- Location of prescribed AAls
- Staff responsibilities
- Arrangements for trips, clubs and off-site activities

IHPs are reviewed at least annually or sooner if needs change.

Risk Reduction Measures

Whole-School Environment

- Clear signage and communication about allergy safety.
- Cleaning routines to reduce cross-contamination.
- Safe storage and handling of food and materials.

Catering and Food Provision

- Catering staff trained in allergy awareness and cross-contamination prevention.
- Ingredient lists available for all food served.
- No sharing of food between pupils.

- Risk assessments for food-based curriculum activities.

“Nut-Free” Approach

Benedict’s Law does **not** mandate nut-free schools; however, Westfield Primary School is a nut free school.

Emergency Response Procedures

Recognising Symptoms

Staff training covers recognition of:

- Mild reactions (itching, hives, swelling)
- Moderate reactions (vomiting, abdominal pain)
- Severe reactions/anaphylaxis (breathing difficulty, collapse)

Use of Adrenaline Auto-Injectors

- Staff trained annually in administering AAls.
- Spare AAls stored in accessible, clearly labelled locations.
- AAls may be used on any child or adult experiencing anaphylaxis, as permitted under Human Medicines Regulations.

Emergency Protocol

1. Administer AAI immediately.
2. Call 999 and state “anaphylaxis”.
3. Lay the pupil flat (or sit up if breathing is difficult).
4. A second AAI may be administered after 5 minutes if symptoms persist.
5. Inform parents/carers.
6. Record the incident and review lessons learned.

Training Requirements

All staff must complete:

- Annual allergy awareness training
- Emergency response and AAI administration training
- Catering-specific training for kitchen staff
- Induction training for new staff

Training records are maintained by the senior allergy lead.

Incident and Near-Miss Reporting

The school follows DfE expectations for:

- Immediate recording of incidents and near misses
- Investigation and identification of lessons learned
- Adjustments to practice, training or IHPs
- Reporting to governors as part of safeguarding and health & safety monitoring

Off-Site Visits and Extra-Curricular Activities

Risk assessments for trips and clubs must include:

- Allergy triggers and environmental risks
- Staff trained and aware of IHPs
- Access to prescribed and spare AAls
- Emergency response arrangements

Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed annually or sooner if:

- Statutory guidance changes
- Significant incidents occur
- Pupil needs change

Publication

In line with Benedict's Law, this policy will be:

- Published on the school website
- Available to parents, staff and visitors
- Shared with catering providers and external partners