



Benedict's Law (Allergy Safety) Policy



Approval date: July 2026

Review date: July 2027

Headteacher / DSL: Kirsty Goldsmith

Responsible Lead (Allergy Lead):

Governing Body Approval:

CONSIDERATION

ASPIRATION

RESPONSIBILITY

ENJOYMENT

1. Rationale and Context

Edleston Primary School is committed to safeguarding all pupils, including those with medical conditions and allergies. This policy is introduced in response to **Benedict's Law**, which establishes statutory expectations for allergy safety in schools across England from September 2026.

Benedict's Law requires all schools to implement consistent measures to **prevent, recognise and respond to allergic reactions, including anaphylaxis**.

This policy ensures that our school meets these legal requirements and provides a safe and inclusive environment for all pupils.

2. Aims

- To ensure all staff can recognise and respond to allergic reactions and anaphylaxis
 - To minimise risk of exposure to allergens within the school environment
 - To maintain clear, consistent procedures across the whole school
 - To reassure parents that robust systems are in place to keep children safe
 - To meet statutory safeguarding requirements under Benedict's Law
-

3. Scope

This policy applies to:

- All pupils (including EYFS, KS1 and KS2)
 - All staff (teaching and non-teaching)
 - Visitors, volunteers and contractors
 - All school activities, including trips and clubs
-

4. Key Requirements Under Benedict's Law

From September 2026, the school will:

4.1 Whole-School Allergy Policy

- Maintain this standalone allergy policy (separate to medical conditions policy)
- Publish the policy on the school website
- Review annually

4.2 Staff Training

- Ensure **all staff receive allergy awareness and anaphylaxis training**
- Training must include:
 - Recognising signs and symptoms
 - Emergency response procedures
 - Use of adrenaline auto-injectors (AAIs)
 - Incident reporting procedures

4.3 Emergency Medication

- Hold **spare, in-date adrenaline auto-injectors (AAIs)** on site
- Ensure they are:
 - Clearly labelled and accessible
 - Known to all staff

4.4 Individual Healthcare Plans

- All pupils with diagnosed allergies will have:
 - An Individual Healthcare Plan (IHP)
 - An Allergy Action Plan
- Plans will be shared with all relevant staff

4.5 Record Keeping

- Record all allergic incidents
- Review incidents to inform future practice
- Communicate appropriately with parents and carers

5. Roles and Responsibilities

Headteacher

- Ensure compliance with statutory guidance
- Report to governors
- Ensure training and policy implementation

Allergy Lead (Named Person)

- Maintain allergy register
- Oversee care plans and communication
- Monitor training compliance
- Lead on incident review

All Staff

- Attend mandatory training
- Know pupils with allergies in their care
- Follow emergency procedures
- Report concerns immediately

Governors

- Approve policy
- Monitor compliance and safeguarding effectiveness

6. Identification and Prevention

- Maintain a **central allergy register**
- Clearly display allergy information (staff-only areas)
- Liaise with parents regarding:
 - Dietary needs
 - School lunches and packed lunches
- Implement risk assessments for:
 - Classrooms
 - Dining areas
 - Trips and visits

7. Emergency Procedures (Anaphylaxis)

All staff must:

1. Recognise symptoms (e.g. difficulty breathing, swelling, collapse)
2. Act immediately:
 - Call 999
 - Administer AAI if required
3. Inform SLT / office immediately
4. Continue monitoring until emergency services arrive

No member of staff should delay treatment.

8. Training Plan (Mandatory)

8.1 Whole-School Training

By September 2026:

- ALL staff (including midday staff, admin, caretakers) will complete:
 - Allergy awareness training
 - Anaphylaxis response training
 - Practical AAI usage training

This reflects statutory expectations that **every staff member must be able to respond in an emergency**

8.2 Annual Refresher Training

- Delivered each September INSET
 - Includes:
 - Emergency scenario practice
 - Updates to procedures
 - Review of incidents
-

8.3 Targeted Training

- Additional training for:
 - First Aiders
 - Office staff (emergency response coordination)
 - Trip leaders
 - Allergy Lead (advanced training/webinars)
-

8.4 New Staff Induction

- Mandatory allergy training before working with pupils
 - Review of:
 - Allergy register
 - Emergency procedures
-

9. Curriculum and Awareness

- Age-appropriate teaching on:
 - Allergies and keeping others safe
 - Not sharing food
 - Reinforced through:
 - PSHE
 - Assemblies
 - School values (CARE)
-

10. Monitoring and Review

- Policy reviewed annually or sooner if guidance changes
 - Governors receive:
 - Training compliance updates
 - Incident reports summary
 - SLT to conduct:
 - Termly compliance checks
 - Spot checks on staff awareness
-

11. Linked Policies

- Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy
 - Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy
 - First Aid Policy
 - Educational Visits Policy
-

12. Equality and Inclusion

This policy supports the school's duty under the Equality Act 2010 to ensure pupils with medical conditions are not disadvantaged and can safely access education.

Next Steps

To help you get this approved quickly before September:

- **June/July**
 - Nominate Allergy Lead
 - Order spare AAls
 - Draft website version of policy
- **July Governors Meeting**
 - Present policy for approval (this document ready to go)
- **September INSET**
 - Deliver whole-staff training
 - Share pupil allergy register