



Marsh Green Primary School

Allergy and Anaphylaxis Policy 2022-2024

CONTENTS

1. Rationale	
1.1 Definition	
1.2 Statement of Intent	
2. Arrangements	
2.1 Storage of Pupils Own AAls	
2.2 Supply, storage and disposal of Emergency AAls	
2.3 Use of Emergency AAls	
3. Signs and Symptoms	
4. What to do if any of the signs of Anaphylaxis are present	
	5. Recording Use of inhaler and Informing Parents/carers
	6. Training
	7. Liability and Indemnity
	8. Complaints
	9. Monitoring Arrangements
	10. Links to Other Policies

1. RATIONALE

1.1 DEFINITION

Anaphylaxis is a severe, potentially life-threatening allergic reaction. It can occur within seconds or minutes of exposure to something that someone is allergic to.

Common triggers include:

- Foods
- Medicines
- Insect stings
- General anaesthetic (NHS)

As nuts are a common food trigger, the school has adopted a No Nuts Policy

1.2 STATEMENT OF INTENT

This Anaphylaxis Policy forms part of Marsh Green Primary School's overall policy on First Aid and Medicines.

The school recognises that Anaphylaxis is a widespread condition and that its severity varies considerably. As with any other medical condition, we are committed to ensuring that any pupils with allergies are fully supported at school.

Procedures for administering medicines and providing first aid are in place and are reviewed regularly.

We will ensure all staff (including supply staff) are aware of First Aid arrangements and that sufficient trained staff are available to implement this policy and deliver against all individual healthcare plans, including in contingency and emergency situations.

2. ARRANGEMENTS

Under our First Aid & Medicines Policy, parents are required to notify the school of any medical condition so that their child can receive appropriate support.

The parents are required to give their consent to the administering or supervising administration of the child's own AAI. At the same time they will be asked to give their consent to the use of the emergency AAI if for any reason the child's own AAI is not available.

Note: The main risk of allowing schools to hold a AAI for emergency use is that it may be administered inappropriately to a child who does not have anaphylaxis. It is essential therefore that schools ensure that the AAI is only used by children who have been prescribed an AAI and for whom written parental consent has been given.

2.1 STORAGE OF PUPIL'S OWN AAIS

AAIs clearly need to be quickly accessible in the event of an allergic reaction. Pupil's AAIs will be clearly labelled and stored away from direct sunlight, and extremes of temperature, in green class medical boxes. At lunchtime these are sent over to the dining hall with a midday.

In extreme circumstances, such as severe need, children will be allowed to carry their own when they are considered mature enough to do so, otherwise when need dictates the AAI will be managed by the class teacher/adult.

2.2 SUPPLY, STORAGE CARE AND DISPOSAL OF EMERGENCY AAIS

The school will purchase AAIs from a reputable pharmaceutical supplier

The following staff member is responsible for storage, care and re-stocking of the AAI
Mrs Kelly – Principal First Aider

She will ensure that:

- on a monthly basis AAIs are present and in working order,
- replacement AAIs are obtained when expiry dates approach

The emergency AAIs will be stored in the medical bay

They will be kept separate from any pupil's AAIs which are stored nearby and will be clearly labelled to avoid confusion with pupil's own AAIs.

DISPOSAL

Once an AAI has been used it cannot be reused and must be disposed of according to manufacturer's guidelines. Used AAIs should be given to the ambulance staff on arrival.

2.3 USE OF EMERGENCY AAI

The emergency AAI will only be used by pupils:

- who have been diagnosed with anaphylaxis, and prescribed with an AAI;
- AND for whom written parental consent (see Appendix 1) for use of the emergency AAI has been given. This consent form will be stored in the medical bay and consent recorded on a list with the emergency AAIs.

3. SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

A MILD TO MODERATE ALLERGIC REACTION

- Swollen lips, face or eyes
- Itchy/tingling mouth
- Hives or red itchy skin rash
- Abdominal pain, vomiting or diarrhoea
- Sudden change in behaviour
- Sneezing, runny or blocked nose
- Red watery itchy eyes
- Wheezy cough

Mild-moderate symptoms are usually responsive to an antihistamine.

The child does not normally need to be sent home from school or require urgent medical attention. However, mild reactions can develop into anaphylaxis, children having a mild-moderate reaction should therefore be monitored closely.

SIGNS OF ANAPHYLAXIS (life threatening allergic reaction)

- Persistent cough
- Hoarse Voice
- Difficulty swallowing, swollen tongue and throat
- Difficulty breathing
- Persistent dizziness or light headedness
- Becoming pale or floppy
- Suddenly sleepy, collapse, unconscious
- Confusion
- Blue skin or lips

NOTE: This is general guidance ALWAYS follow a child's IHP. These can be found in the medical bay and with their AAI.

4. WHAT TO DO IF ANY SYMPTOMS OF ANAPHYLAXIS ARE PRESENT

Anaphylaxis commonly occurs together with mild symptoms or signs of allergy, such as skin rash or itchy mouth. Anaphylaxis can also occur on its own without any mild signs. In the presence of any severe symptoms, it is vital that an AAI is administered without delay.

You should administer the pupils own AAI if available. The AAI can be administered through clothing and should be injected into the upper outer thigh in line with the manufacturer's instructions.

Do not move the child, as standing someone up with anaphylaxis can trigger cardiac arrest. Provide reassurance. The child should lie down with their legs raised, if breathing is difficult allow the child to sit.

ALWAYS CALL 999 AND REQUEST AN AMBULANCE WHEN AN AAI IS USED

When dialling 999, inform the controller that the person is suffering from anaphylaxis and an AAI has been administered.

NOTE: This is general guidance ALWAYS follow a child's IHP. These can be found in the medical bay and with their AAI.

5. RECORDING USE OF AN AAI & INFORMING PARENTS/CARERS

Use of the AAI should be recorded. This should include where and when the episode took place, e.g. PE lesson, playground, classroom and the member of staff administering medication. Our policy Supporting pupils with Medical Conditions requires written records to be kept of all medicines administered to children.

Any use of an AAI must be communicated to parents as soon as possible, parents should be called after 999.

If the emergency AAI is used the parent will be informed and a new AAI will be ordered immediately.

6. TRAINING

All staff are expected to be:

- aware of the anaphylaxis policy and how to access it;
- aware of how to check if a child requires an AAI;
- aware of how to access the AAI;
- aware of who the designated members of staff are.

The school will ensure that designated staff are trained in:

- recognising an allergic reaction, and distinguishing them from other conditions with similar symptoms;
- responding appropriately to a request for help from another member of staff;
- recognising when emergency action is necessary;
- administering AAI in line with the schools policy;
- keeping appropriate records.
- Undergoing yearly training lead by an designated school nurse.

10. LIABILITY AND INDEMNITY

The governing board will ensure that the appropriate level of insurance is in place and appropriately reflects the school's level of risk.

The school's insurance arrangements are accessible via the School Office.

The school's insurance policy covers liability relating to the administration of medication

11. COMPLAINTS

Parents with a complaint about their child's medical condition should discuss these directly with the SENDCo in the first instance. If the SENDCo cannot resolve the matter, they will direct parents to the school's complaints procedure.

12. MONITORING ARRANGEMENTS

This policy will be reviewed and approved by the governing board every 2 years.

13. LINKS TO OTHER POLICIES

This policy links to the following policies:

- Single Equalities
- First aid
- Health and safety
- Supporting children with Medical conditions

APPENDIX 1: EMERGENCY AAI CONSENT

Name of Pupil:

Class:

1. I can confirm that my child has been diagnosed with anaphylaxis and has been prescribed an AAI.
2. My child has an in-date AAI, clearly labelled with their name, which has been provided to the school office.
3. In the event of my child displaying symptoms of allergic reaction and their AAI is not available or is unusable, I consent for them to receive an emergency AAI held by the school for such emergencies.
4. I understand that it is my responsibility to ensure that my child has a working, in-date inhaler, clearly labelled with their name in school and that I must check this regularly/ inform the school if there is any change to my child's condition.

Signed:

Date:

Name:

Relationship to Pupil: