

St Michael's CE High School

A Church of England Academy



Allergy Safety Policy

Responsibility to present to Headteacher	Associate Assistant Head (SENCO) and Headteacher
Approval	Full Governors (pending approval September 2026)
Next Review	September 2027
Statutory	Yes
Required on school website	Yes

Our mission statement: As a vibrant learning community, we choose to serve God, pursue excellence and celebrate the uniqueness of each individual.



Our vision: Growing in body, mind and spirit

I have come that you might have life – life in all its fullness. **John 10:10**



Therefore choose [life]
Deuteronomy 30:19

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1. Introduction

At St Michael's CE High School, our Christian ethos calls us to value, nurture and protect every member of our school community. We are committed to providing a safe, inclusive and supportive environment in which pupils with allergies can participate fully in all aspects of school life.

The school recognises that allergic conditions can affect pupils' health, wellbeing, attendance and educational progress. We therefore take a proactive approach to identifying, managing and reducing risks associated with allergies and anaphylaxis.

This policy has been developed in accordance with the Department for Education's statutory guidance *Allergy Safety in Schools* (2026), introduced following Benedict's Law. It should be read alongside the school's:

- Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy
- First Aid Policy
- Educational Visits Policy
- Health and Safety Policy
- Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
- Behaviour Policy

The school acknowledges that it is not possible to create a completely allergen-free environment. Instead, we adopt an allergy-aware approach that seeks to minimise risk through robust procedures, staff training and effective communication. [\[gov.uk\]](https://www.gov.uk), [\[allergyuk.org\]](https://allergyuk.org)

2. Aims

The aims of this policy are to:

- Safeguard pupils with allergies and those at risk of anaphylaxis.
- Ensure staff understand their responsibilities.
- Promote a culture of awareness, understanding and inclusion.
- Maintain effective systems for identifying and managing allergy risks.
- Ensure swift and appropriate responses to allergic reactions.
- Meet all statutory requirements relating to allergy safety in schools. [\[gov.uk\]](https://www.gov.uk), [\[assets.pub...ice.gov.uk\]](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk)

3. Legal Framework

This policy has been written with reference to:

- Children and Families Act 2014.
- Children's Wellbeing and Schools Act 2026.
- DfE Allergy Safety in Schools Statutory Guidance (2026).
- Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions at School.



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- Equality Act 2010.
- Human Medicines (Amendment) Regulations 2017.
- Natasha's Law (Food Information (Amendment) Regulations 2019). [\[gov.uk\]](#), [\[assets.pub...ice.gov.uk\]](#), [\[gov.uk\]](#)

4. Roles and Responsibilities

Governing Board

The Governing Board will ensure that appropriate allergy management procedures are in place and that the school complies with statutory requirements.

Headteacher

The Headteacher has overall responsibility for the implementation of this policy.

Allergy Lead

The SENDCO will act as the school's Allergy Lead and will:

- Maintain the allergy register.
- Coordinate Individual Healthcare Plans.
- Liaise with families and health professionals.
- Monitor staff training.
- Review incidents and near misses.

Staff

All staff are responsible for:

- Attending annual allergy awareness training.
- Familiarising themselves with Individual Healthcare Plans.
- Knowing how to recognise signs of an allergic reaction.
- Following emergency procedures when required.

Parents and Carers

Parents and carers are responsible for ensuring the school receives accurate and up-to-date information regarding their child's allergies and medication requirements.

Pupils

Pupils are encouraged, where appropriate, to manage their allergy safely, avoid known allergens and seek adult help immediately if symptoms occur.

5. Identification and Record Keeping

The school will maintain an up-to-date allergy register and ensure relevant information is available to staff who need it to keep pupils safe.

An Individual Healthcare Plan (IHP) will be developed for pupils whose allergy requires provision that is different from or additional to that ordinarily available in school.



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IHPs will be reviewed annually, or sooner where there is a change in medical need. [\[gov.uk\]](#), [\[assets.pub...ice.gov.uk\]](#)

6. Preventing Exposure to Allergens

St Michael's CE High School adopts a proportionate risk management approach. Measures include:

- Handwashing before and after eating.
- Regular cleaning of eating areas.
- Clear communication regarding allergens.
- Careful planning of curriculum activities involving food.
- Appropriate risk assessment of educational visits and enrichment activities.
- Encouraging pupils not to share food or drinks.

The school does not operate a blanket "nut-free" policy but instead follows current government guidance promoting an allergy-aware environment. [\[allergyuk.org\]](#), [\[assets.pub...ice.gov.uk\]](#)

7. Catering and Food Provision

The school catering provider will comply with all food safety and allergen legislation. Allergen information will be readily available, and appropriate systems will be in place to minimise cross-contamination risks.

Any changes to ingredients, menus or suppliers will be reviewed for potential impact on pupils with allergies.

8. Training

All staff will receive annual allergy awareness and anaphylaxis training.

Training will include:

- Understanding allergies.
- Recognising symptoms.
- Use of adrenaline auto-injectors.
- Emergency response arrangements.
- Reporting procedures.

Additional training will be provided where an individual pupil's needs require it. [\[gov.uk\]](#), [\[gov.uk\]](#)

9. Medication

Pupils prescribed emergency medication must have rapid access to it at all times.

The school will:

- Maintain appropriately stored spare adrenaline auto-injectors.
- Conduct monthly checks of emergency medication.



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- Keep records of storage, expiry dates and administration.

In line with government expectations introduced through Benedict's Law, emergency AAIs will be available on site and accessible without delay. [\[gov.uk\]](#), [\[allergyuk.org\]](#)

10. Managing an Allergic Reaction

Any pupil displaying signs of an allergic reaction will receive immediate support.

Where anaphylaxis is suspected:

1. Administer adrenaline immediately.
2. Call 999 and state "anaphylaxis".
3. Retrieve additional emergency medication.
4. Inform parents/carers.
5. Ensure the pupil receives urgent medical assessment.

If in doubt, adrenaline should be administered. [\[assets.pub...ice.gov.uk\]](#), [\[gov.uk\]](#)

11. Educational Visits

Pupils with allergies will be enabled to participate fully in educational visits wherever it is safe to do so.

Visit leaders will undertake appropriate risk assessments and ensure medication accompanies the pupil.

Parents will not be expected to attend visits as a condition of participation.

[\[medicaltracker.co.uk\]](#), [\[assets.pub...ice.gov.uk\]](#)

12. Incident Reporting

All allergic reactions, administration of adrenaline and near misses will be recorded and reviewed.

The purpose of review is to identify lessons learned and strengthen future practice in line with the principles of Benedict's Law. [\[gov.uk\]](#), [\[medicaltracker.co.uk\]](#)

13. Monitoring and Review

This policy will be reviewed annually by the SENDCO and Headteacher and approved by the Governing Board.

It will also be reviewed following:

- Any serious incident.
- A significant near miss.
- Changes to legislation or statutory guidance.

- Recommendations arising from policy evaluation.

Document Control

Document Information

Document ID/Title	Allergy Safety Policy
Document Owner	Mrs T Wilson / Mrs R Rongong
Document Author	Mrs T Wilson
Type of Policy	Statutory
Review Frequency	Annual
Approval authority	Full Governors

Document History

Version	Publication date	Changes
V1	09/09/2026	NA

Document Approvals

Date	Approved by
September 2026	Full Governors (Pending)