



*Our Best Preparation for Tomorrow
Is Doing Our Best Today*

Westbrook Old Hall

PRIMARY SCHOOL

ALLERGY POLICY

FEBRUARY 2017

SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

We believe that the best preparation for tomorrow's future is striving to do our best today.

We believe that because **our children matter**, they have the right to be safe and healthy, happy and confident, recognised for the individuals they are and for those they might become.

We believe that because **our children's achievement matters**, they have the right to an excellent learning environment that promotes high expectations, ensures inclusion, recognises diversity and promotes progress and attainment.

We believe that because **our children's future matters**, they have the right to lead, the right to follow, the right to take best advantage of present and future technology and the right to a global life free from threat

Aims (Outcomes)

Our school aims that all children:

- Are tolerant and responsible
- Are happy and confident
- Are safe and healthy
- Are skilled and willing
- Are eco aware
- Are techno 'cute'
- Are leaders and partners
- Are flexible
- Are given every opportunity to attain and progress
- Are mindful of the joy of diversity
- Are focused on being excellent in all they do
- Are expected always to do their best

SCHOOL AIMS

Our **children** matter, as does their **achievement** and so too does their **future**.

Because our children matter, we will work to:

- Ensure they are safe and ensure that they can keep themselves and others safe too
- Make sure that school life is happy, enjoyable and rewarding - taking each and every opportunity to build confident, positive citizens of the future
- Develop individuals with a sense of responsibility to themselves and to their community, able to respond positively to different views and beliefs

Because our children's achievement matters, we will work to:

- Release and develop the excellence latent in all our children
- Ensure high expectations in all we do, developing a culture that remains positive about the steps to success and able to celebrate success accordingly
- Provide an inclusive learning framework where individual needs are recognised and catered for, where diversity is celebrated for what it offers our school community
- Ensure that all children make good progress leading to attainment appropriate to potential
- Develop learners with a love of learning and a commitment to future learning in life

Because our children's futures matter, we will work to:

- Develop their ability to release the opportunities provided by technologies present and future
- Develop their awareness of their footprint upon this 'one' world and how they can contribute to its sustainability
- Develop a skills base and a solution-focused attitude that can be applied to effect in a variety of circumstances now and in the future
- Develop an ability to lead others and to be led by others in productive working partnerships

EQUALITY STATEMENT

Equal Opportunities is the responsibility of the whole school community and must be reflected throughout the organisation of the school and be addressed in the taught and hidden curriculum.

All staff, governors, parents/guardians and pupils will be involved in developing, implementing and monitoring the equal opportunities policy and practice.

All staff, governors, parents/guardians and pupils regardless of race, religion, ethnicity, disability, age, gender, sexual orientation and socio-economic background, are welcome and will be encouraged to participate in the life of the school.

The school recognises its responsibilities under the Equality Act 2010 to eliminate discrimination and to promote good race relations.

BRITISH VALUES

The government set out its definition of British Values in the 2011 Prevent Strategy. At Westbrook Old Hall we reinforce regularly the following values through an agreed programme: Democracy, The Rule of Law, Individual Liberty, Mutual Respect and Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs.

INTRODUCTION

This policy is concerned with a whole school approach to the health care and management of those members within the school community suffering from specific allergies.

RATIONALE

Westbrook Old Hall Primary School's position is not to guarantee a completely allergen free environment rather; to minimize the risk of exposure, encourage self-responsibility, and plan for effective response to possible emergencies. The intent of this policy is to minimize the risk of any student or staff member suffering allergy-induced anaphylaxis whilst at school or attending any school related activity.

The common causes of allergies relevant to this policy are nuts (*in particular peanuts*), dairy products, eggs, wasp and bee stings and ants. ***An allergic relation to nuts and wasp stings are the most common high risk allergy, and as such demands more rigorous controls throughout the policy.***

The underlying principles of this policy include:

- The establishment of effective risk management practices to minimize the pupil, staff, parent and visitor exposure to known trigger foods and insects.
- Staff training and education to ensure effective emergency response to any allergic reaction situation.

This policy applies to all members of the Westbrook Old Hall Primary School community:

- School staff
- Parents/Guardians/Carers
- Volunteers
- Supply staff
- Students/visitors

DEFINITIONS

Allergy - A condition in which the body has an exaggerated response to a substance (e.g. food and drug). Also known as hypersensitivity.

Allergen - A normally harmless substance that triggers an allergic reaction in the immune system of a susceptible person.

Anaphylaxis - Anaphylaxis, or anaphylactic shock, is a sudden, severe and potentially life-threatening allergic reaction to food, stings, bites or medicines.

Epipen - Brand name for syringe style device containing the drug Adrenalin which is ready for immediate inter-muscular administration.

Minimized Risk Environment- An environment where risk management practices (e.g. risk assessment forms) have minimised the risk of allergen exposure.

Health Care Plan - A detailed document outlining an individual persons condition, treatment and action plan for location of Epipen.

KEY STRATEGIES

General

- The involvement of parents, staff and the pupils in establishing individual health care plans.
- The establishment and maintenance of practices for effectively communicating individual student medical plans to all relevant staff.
- The incorporation of allergy management strategies into the risk assessments for all school events, visits and sporting activities.
- Staff training in anaphylaxis management, including awareness of triggers and first aid procedures to be followed in the event of an emergency.
- Age appropriate education of the children with severe food and insect allergies.
- Parents/Guardians are requested to carefully consider eliminating allergenic food stuffs from their children's lunch boxes and celebratory events.

Nut Related

- Classroom teachers and support staff promote hand washing before and after eating.
- Westbrook Old Hall Primary School is committed to no food and drink sharing.
- There is age appropriate education of the children with severe nut allergies - specifically peanuts.

Dairy and Egg Related

- Students with dairy product or egg allergies are managed by the school in consultation with the parents/guardians/carers on a case by case basis.
- There is age appropriate education of the children with severe dairy/egg allergies.

Insect Related

- Diligent management of wasp and ant nests on school grounds.
- Education of students to report significant presence of insects in play areas.
- There is age appropriate education of the children with severe insect allergies.

Other Allergies

- Students with allergies are managed by the school in consultation with the parents/guardians/carers on a case by case basis.
- There is age appropriate education of the children with allergies.

PROCEDURES AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOR ALLERGY MANAGEMENT

Medical Information

Parents/Guardians/Carers are responsible for providing, in writing, ongoing accurate and current medical information to the school. The school will seek updated information via medical forms at the commencement of the school year. Any change in a child's medical condition during the year must be reported to the school.

For students with an allergic condition, the school requires parents/guardians/carers to provide written advice from a doctor (GP), which explains the condition, defines the allergy triggers and any required medication.

The *school and school nurse* will ensure that a Health Care Plan (action plan) is established and updated for each child with a known allergy.

Teachers and teaching assistants of these students and key staff are required to review and familiarise themselves with the medical information.

Action plans with a recent photograph for any students with allergies will be posted in relevant rooms with parental permission.

Where students/visitors with known allergies are participating in school visits, the risk assessments must include this information.

Relevant sports coaches are provided with medical information for any student with known allergies prior to undertaking the activity.

Where requested or required, the wearing of a medic-alert bracelet is allowed by the school.

Medical Information - EPIPENS

Where Epipens (Adrenalin) are required in the Health Care Plan;

- *Parents/guardians/carers* are responsible for the provision and timely replacement of the Epipen(s).
- The Epipen(s) are located securely in relevant locations approved by the Head-teacher. (See Administration of Medicine Policy)

MONITORING AND REVIEW

The Healthy Schools Co-coordinator is responsible for monitoring the policy with the help of all staff, SLT and School Nurse.

The policy will be reviewed annually to take account of new developments and standards.