



HOLLYBUSH PRIMARY SCHOOL POLICIES

ALLERGY POLICY

**Be Kind, Keep
Improving and
Never give up**

Date:
Review Date:
Version:

September 2026
September 2027

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Whole-School Allergy Policy

Hollybush Primary School, England — In Line with Benedict's Law (2026)

1. Purpose and Legal Framework

This policy sets out the school's statutory responsibilities for allergy safety under **Benedict's Law (Children's Wellbeing and Schools Act 2026)** and the **DfE Statutory Allergy Guidance (2026)**. It ensures a whole-school approach to preventing, identifying, and responding to allergic reactions, including anaphylaxis.

Legal duties include:

- A standalone **allergy policy** published annually.
 - A named **Allergy-Safety Lead**.
 - **Whole-staff annual training** in allergy awareness and emergency response.
 - **Spare adrenaline auto-injectors (AAIs)** on site.
 - **Individual Healthcare Plans (IHPs)** for pupils with diagnosed allergies.
 - **Incident reporting and post-incident review** procedures.
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2. Policy Scope

This policy applies to:

- All school staff, governors, volunteers, contractors, and visitors.
 - All pupils, including those with undiagnosed allergies.
 - All school activities: lessons, clubs, trips, transport, wrap-around care, and catering.
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3. Roles and Responsibilities

3.1 Allergy-Safety Lead

Mrs C Tilbury

A senior staff member appointed by the Headteacher. Responsibilities:

- Maintain the **allergy register**.
- Coordinate and review **IHPs**.
- Ensure **training compliance**.
- Oversee **risk-reduction measures**.
- Monitor **spare AAIs** (expiry, accessibility).

- Lead **post-incident reviews** and update procedures.

3.2 All Staff

All staff must:

- Complete annual allergy-awareness and AAI-use training.
- Know how to recognise allergic reactions and anaphylaxis.
- Follow risk-reduction procedures.
- Act immediately in an emergency.

3.3 Parents/Carers

Parents must:

- Provide accurate medical information.
- Supply prescribed AAls and ensure they are in date.
- Communicate changes in allergy status promptly.
- Provide safe food where relevant.

3.4 Governors

Governors ensure compliance with Benedict's Law and review this policy annually.

4. Identification and Management of Pupils with Allergies

4.1 Allergy Register

A secure register is maintained and updated termly. It includes:

- Diagnosed allergies
- Known triggers
- Medication requirements
- Emergency protocols

4.2 Individual Healthcare Plans (IHPs)

Each pupil with a diagnosed allergy has an IHP covering:

- Allergy triggers
- Symptoms
- Medication and dosage
- Emergency response steps
- Storage and access arrangements

- Staff responsibilities
- Parent and clinician contacts

4.3 Undiagnosed Allergies

Any suspected allergic reaction is treated seriously. Spare AAls may be used in emergencies for undiagnosed pupils.

5. Risk-Reduction Measures

5.1 Food Safety

- Catering staff receive enhanced allergy training.
- Menus include clear allergen information.
- No food sharing.
- Safe classroom practices (e.g., allergen-safe craft materials).
- Birthday treats follow strict guidelines.

5.2 Environmental Controls

- Cleaning routines minimise cross-contamination.
- Allergen-safe zones created where needed.
- Risks from animals, plants, and outdoor environments assessed.

5.3 Trips, Clubs, and Events

- Risk assessments include allergy considerations.
 - Staff carry AAls and IHPs.
 - External providers must meet allergy-safety requirements.
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6. Emergency Response

6.1 Recognising an Allergic Reaction

Symptoms may include:

- Mild: itching, hives, swelling, stomach pain
- Severe (anaphylaxis): breathing difficulty, wheezing, collapse, confusion

6.2 Use of Adrenaline Auto-Injectors

In suspected anaphylaxis:

1. Administer AAI immediately.
2. Call 999 and state “anaphylaxis”.

3. Lay the pupil flat (or sit up if breathing is difficult).
4. Administer a second AAI after 5 minutes if symptoms persist.
5. Inform parents.
6. Record the incident.

Spare AAI's are stored in clearly marked, accessible locations.

7. Training

7.1 Whole-Staff Annual Training

Training includes:

- Allergy awareness
- Recognising anaphylaxis
- Emergency response
- Practical AAI use
- Incident reporting
- Scenario-based practice

7.2 Specialist Training

Catering teams, trip leaders, and the allergy-safety lead receive enhanced training.

8. Incident Recording and Review

8.1 Incident Reporting

All reactions, near misses, and AAI uses are logged in the school's medical incident system.

8.2 Post-Incident Review

The allergy-safety lead conducts a review to identify lessons learned and update procedures.

9. Communication

9.1 Parents

The policy is shared annually and published on the school website.

9.2 Staff

Updates are communicated through briefings and training.

9.3 Pupils

Age-appropriate education promotes empathy and safe behaviour.

10. Monitoring and Review

The governing body reviews this policy annually or after any significant incident. Updates follow changes in statutory guidance.

11. Policy Availability

Available:

- On the school website
 - In the staff handbook
 - From the school office on request
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12. Approval

Approved by: **School Governing Body**

Review cycle: **Annual**

Next review: **September 2027**

Allergy Information for Parents

Primary School — In Line with Benedict's Law (2026)

Short takeaway: Our school follows a whole-school allergy-safety approach to protect every child. Staff are trained, emergency medication is available, and clear procedures help prevent allergic reactions and respond quickly if one occurs.

Our Commitment

We want every child to feel safe and included. Allergies can be serious, and some reactions happen without warning. Under *Benedict's Law*, we follow strict procedures to reduce risks and respond quickly in an emergency.



Key People

- The school has a named **Allergy-Safety Lead** who oversees allergy management.
- **All staff** receive annual training on allergies and how to use adrenaline auto-injectors (AAIs).



Allergy Information & Plans

- We keep an **allergy register** of all pupils with allergies.
- Children with diagnosed allergies have an **Individual Healthcare Plan (IHP)** that explains their triggers, symptoms, and emergency steps.
- If your child's allergy changes, please tell us straight away.

Food & Snacks

To keep everyone safe:

- No food sharing.
- Clear allergen information is provided for school meals.
- Birthday treats and snacks must follow school guidance.
- Packed lunches should avoid known allergens for classmates when requested.

School Environment

We reduce risks by:

- Using allergen-safe materials in lessons.
- Cleaning regularly to avoid cross-contamination.
- Assessing risks for animals, plants, and outdoor activities.

Trips, Clubs & Events

- Staff carry your child's medication and their IHP.
- Catering providers must meet allergy-safety standards.
- Risk assessments always include allergy considerations.

Emergency Response

If a child shows signs of a serious allergic reaction:

1. Staff will **use an adrenaline auto-injector immediately**.
2. We will call **999** and say "anaphylaxis".
3. A second AAI may be given after 5 minutes if needed.
4. Parents will be contacted as soon as possible.

The school also keeps **spare AAI**s for emergencies.

Incident Recording

All allergic reactions — even mild ones — are recorded. We review every incident to improve safety.

Communication With Families

- This policy is shared every year and available on our website.
- We will update you if procedures change.
- Please keep us informed about your child's allergy needs.

Working Together

Keeping children safe is a partnership. Your information, our training, and clear routines help ensure every child can learn and play confidently.