



## Allergy Policy

### Equality Statement

Centre Academy East Anglia is committed to a policy of equality and aims to ensure that no employee, job applicant, pupil or other member of the school community is treated less favourably on grounds of sex, race, colour, ethnic or national origin, marital status, age, sexual orientation, disability or religious belief. We provide a safe, supportive and welcoming environment

Review Date:	Mar-27
Last Review Date:	Mar-26
Held on website:	Yes

### Signed by Chair of Proprietor Body

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Murphy'.

Date: 04/09/25

Chair of Proprietor Body

Mr R Murphy

*Centre Academy East Anglia is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff to share this commitment.*

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### 1. Aims

This policy aims to:

- Set out our school's approach to allergy management, including reducing the risk of exposure and the procedures in place in case of allergic reaction
- Make clear how our school supports pupils with allergies to ensure their wellbeing and inclusion
- Promote and maintain allergy awareness among the school community

### 2. Legislation and guidance

This policy is based on the Department for Education (DfE)'s guidance on [allergies in schools and supporting pupils with medical conditions at school](#), the Department of Health and Social Care's guidance on [using emergency adrenaline auto-injectors in schools](#), and the following legislation:

- [The Food Information Regulations 2014](#)
- [The Food Information \(Amendment\) \(England\) Regulations 2019](#)

### 3. Roles and responsibilities

We take a whole-school approach to allergy awareness.

#### 3.1 Allergy lead

The nominated person for allergy awareness is the medical lead, Mrs Vanessa Cameron-Laker who can be contacted on 01449 736404 or emailed ([v.cameron-laker@centreacademy.uk](mailto:v.cameron-laker@centreacademy.uk)) and the SMT Lead is Mrs Samantha Wright ([s.wright@centreacademy.uk](mailto:s.wright@centreacademy.uk)).

They're responsible for:

- Promoting and maintaining allergy awareness across our school community
- Recording and collating allergy and special dietary information for all relevant pupils
- Ensuring:
  - All allergy information is up to date and readily available to relevant members of staff
  - All pupils with allergies have an allergy action plan completed by a medical professional

- All staff receive an appropriate level of allergy training
  - All staff are aware of the school's policy and procedures regarding allergies
  - Relevant staff are aware of what activities need an allergy risk assessment
- Keeping stock of the school's adrenaline auto-injectors (AAIs)
  - Regularly reviewing and updating the allergy policy

Management of Allergy Safety arrangements are:

Named Governor – Mr Rohan Murphy

Senior Leader – Mrs Lisa Gilbert

### **3.2 Teaching and support staff**

All teaching and support staff are responsible for:

- Promoting and maintaining allergy awareness among pupils
- Maintaining awareness of our allergy policy and procedures
- Being able to recognise the signs of severe allergic reactions and anaphylaxis
- Attending appropriate allergy training as required
- Being aware of specific pupils with allergies in their care
- Carefully considering the use of food or other potential allergens in lesson and activity planning
- Ensuring the wellbeing and inclusion of pupils with allergies

### **3.3 Parents/carers**

Parents/carers are responsible for:

- Being aware of our school's allergy policy
- Providing the school with up-to-date details of their child's medical needs, dietary requirements, and any history of allergies, reactions and anaphylaxis
- If required, providing their child with 2 in-date adrenaline auto-injectors and any other medication, including inhalers, antihistamine etc., and making sure these are replaced in a timely manner
- Carefully considering the food they provide to their child as packed lunches and snacks, and trying to limit the number of allergens included and not including any food groups that are excluded from the school, due to known allergies.
- Following the school's guidance on food brought in to be shared
- Updating the school on any changes to their child's condition

### **3.4 Pupils with allergies**

These pupils are responsible for:

- Being aware of their allergens and the risks they pose
- Understanding how and when to use their adrenaline auto-injector
- If age-appropriate, carrying their adrenaline auto-injector on their person and only using it for its intended purpose

### **3.5 Pupils without allergies**

These pupils are responsible for:

- Being aware of allergens and the risk they pose to their peers

## **4. Assessing risk**

The school will conduct a risk assessment for any pupil at risk of anaphylaxis taking part in:

- Off-site events and school trips

## **5. Managing risk**

### **5.1 Hygiene procedures**

- Pupils are reminded to wash their hands before and after eating
- Sharing of food is not allowed
- Pupils have their own named water bottles or are provided with single use cups

### **5.2 Catering**

The school is committed to providing safe food options to meet the dietary needs of pupils with allergies.

- Catering staff receive appropriate training and can identify pupils with allergies
- School menus are available for parents/carers to view
- Where changes are made to school menus, we will make sure these continue to meet any special dietary needs of pupils
- Food allergen information relating to the 'top 14' allergens is displayed on the packaging of all food products, allowing pupils and staff to make safer choices. Allergen information labelling will follow all legal requirements that apply to naming the food and listing ingredients, as outlined by the Food Standards Agency (FSA)
- Catering staff follow hygiene and allergy procedures when preparing food to avoid cross-contamination

### **5.3 Food restrictions**

We acknowledge that it is impractical to enforce an allergen-free school. However, pupils and staff must avoid bringing certain high-risk foods into school to reduce the chances of someone experiencing a reaction. These foods include:

- Packaged nuts
- Cereal, granola or chocolate bars containing nuts
- Peanut butter or chocolate spreads containing nuts
- Peanut-based sauces, such as satay
- Sesame seeds and foods containing sesame seeds
- Strawberries or products containing the fruit or juice
- Kiwi
- Shellfish

If a pupil brings these foods into school the food will be confiscated.

## 5.4 Insect bites/stings

When outdoors:

- Shoes should always be worn
- Food and drink should be covered

## 5.5 Animals

- All pupils will always wash hands after interacting with animals to avoid putting pupils with allergies at risk through later contact
- Pupils with animal allergies will not interact with animals

## 5.6 Support for mental health

Pupils with allergies will have additional support through:

- Pastoral care

## 5.7 Events and school trips

- For events, including ones that take place outside of the school, and school trips, no pupils with allergies will be excluded from taking part
- The school will plan accordingly for all events and school trips, and arrange for the staff members involved to be aware of pupils' allergies and to have received adequate training
- Appropriate measures will be taken in line with the schools AAI protocols for off-site events and school trips (see section 7.5).

# 6. Procedures for handling an allergic reaction

## 6.1 Register of pupils with AAI

- The school maintains a register of pupils who have been prescribed AAIs or where a doctor has provided a written plan recommending AAIs to be used in the event of anaphylaxis. The register includes:
  - Known allergens and risk factors for anaphylaxis
  - Whether a pupil has been prescribed AAI(s) (and if so, what type and dose)
  - Where a pupil has been prescribed an AAI, whether parental consent has been given for use of the spare AAI, which may be different to the personal AAI prescribed for the pupil

The register is kept online and in the medical room and can be checked quickly by any member of staff as part of initiating an emergency response.

## 6.2 Allergic reaction procedures

- As part of the whole-school awareness approach to allergies, all staff are trained in the school's allergic reaction procedure, and to recognise the signs of anaphylaxis and respond appropriately
- Staff are trained in the administration of AAIs to minimise delays in pupil's receiving adrenaline in an emergency
- If a pupil has an allergic reaction, the staff member will initiate the school's emergency response plan, following the pupil's allergy action plan
  - If an AAI needs to be administered, a member of staff will use the pupil's own AAI, or if it is not available, a school one

- If the pupil has no allergy action plan, staff will follow the school's procedures on responding to allergy and, if needed, the school's normal emergency procedure
- A school AAI device will be used instead of the pupil's own AAI device if:
  - Medical authorisation and written parental consent have been provided, or
  - The pupil's own prescribed AAI(s) are not immediately available (for example, because they are broken, out-of-date, have misfired or been wrongly administered)
- If a pupil needs to be taken to hospital, staff will stay with the pupil until the parent/carer arrives, or accompany the pupil to hospital by ambulance
- If the allergic reaction is mild (e.g. skin rash, itching or sneezing), the pupil will be monitored and the parents/carers informed

## **7. Adrenaline auto-injectors (AAIs)**

### **7.1 Purchasing of spare AAIs**

The medical lead is responsible for buying AAIs and ensuring they are stored according to the guidance.

### **7.2 Storage (of both spare and prescribed AAIs)**

The allergy lead will make sure all AAIs are:

- Stored at room temperature (in line with manufacturer's guidelines), protected from direct sunlight and extremes of temperature
- Kept in a safe and suitably central location to which all staff always have access, but is out of the reach and sight of children
- **Not** locked away, but accessible and available for use at all times
- **Not** located more than 5 minutes away from where they may be needed
- Spare AAIs will be kept separate from any pupil's own prescribed AAI, and clearly labelled to avoid confusion.

### **7.3 Maintenance (of spare AAIs)**

Mrs Vanessa Cameron-Laker and Mrs Samantha Wright are responsible for checking monthly that:

- The AAIs are present and in date
- Replacement AAIs are obtained when the expiry date is near

### **7.4 Disposal**

AAIs can only be used once. Once an AAI has been used, it will be disposed of in line with the manufacturer's instructions

### **7.5 Use of AAIs off school premises**

- Pupils at risk of anaphylaxis who are able to administer their own AAIs should carry their own AAI with them on school trips and off-site events
- A spare AAI will be taken by the leader of the school trip

### **7.6 Emergency anaphylaxis kit**

The school holds an emergency anaphylaxis kit. This includes:

- Spare AAIs

- Instructions for the use of AAls
- Instructions on storage
- Manufacturer's information
- A checklist of injectors, identified by batch number and expiry date with monthly checks recorded
- A note of arrangements for replacing injectors
- A list of pupils to whom the AAI can be administered
- A record of when AAls have been administered

## **8. Training**

The school is committed to training all staff in allergy response. This includes:

- How to reduce and prevent the risk of allergic reactions
- How to spot the signs of allergic reactions (including anaphylaxis)
- The importance of acting quickly in the case of anaphylaxis
- Where AAls are kept on the school site, and how to access them
- How to administer AAls
- The wellbeing and inclusion implications of allergies
- Training will be carried out annually by the Medical Lead
- All staff will carry out training as directed by the SMT Lead

## **9. Links to other policies**

This policy links to the following policies and procedures:

- Food and Safety policy
- Management and Administration of Medication policy
- Offsite Visits policy
- Dogs in School policy