



Allergy Policy (2026-2027)

At Beddington Infants' School we are committed to keeping all children safe. Around 1-2 children in every class may have a diagnosed allergy. Benedict's Law 2026 requires all schools in England to have statutory allergy safety measures. This policy sets out how we will prevent allergic reactions and respond quickly in an emergency.

Aims:

- To ensure a safe environment for children with allergies
- To ensure all staff can recognise and respond to allergic reactions and anaphylaxis
- To ensure emergency medication is available and accessible
- To work in partnership with parents/carers

Roles and Responsibilities:

Headteacher & Governors: Ensure policy is implemented and reviewed annually.

Assistant Headteacher: – to act as an allergy lead, oversee training, AAI checks, IHPs, and records.

All Staff: Complete annual allergy training. Know where AAIs are and how to use them.

Parents/Carers: Provide medical information, medication, and updated Allergy Action Plans.

Individual Healthcare Plans (IHPs) & Allergy Action Plans:

For any child with a diagnosed allergy we will:

- Have a written Individual Health Care Plan and Allergy Action Plan with input from parent/GP/allergy clinic
- Include photo, known allergens, symptoms, and emergency steps
- Share with all staff across the year group ie class teachers, TAs, LSAs, Kitchen staff, midday supervisors and supply staff
- Review annually or after any reaction

Prevention in a Nursery/Infant Setting:

We recognise young children cannot self-manage. Therefore we will:

- Food: Maintain an allergen register for school meals and snacks. No nuts on site. Staff to supervise at mealtimes.
- No food sharing will be taught from Nursery.
- Birthday treats: These are not permitted. This information is shared with all parents during initial welcome meetings.
- Craft: Avoid allergens like milk, eggs, wheat in playdough/sensory materials where possible.
- Trips: Risk assessment completed. Medication and AAIs taken. Staff:child ratios considered
- Communication: Allergies displayed in staff areas. Photos with consent in kitchen and classroom

-When children are cooking or tasting, information about the ingredients being used will be sent to families beforehand.

Emergency Medication:

- We hold spare Adrenaline Auto-Injectors (AAIs) on site as required by Benedict's Law
- AAIs for children in Key Stage 1 are stored in the school office in unlocked, clearly marked boxes. AAIs for children in Nursery and Reception are stored in the same way, in those buildings
- AAIs checked monthly for expiry by admin team
- Staff trained to administer a child's own AAI and a spare AAI if needed

Responding to an Allergic Reaction:

Staff will follow the child's Allergy Action Plan. General steps:

1. Mild reaction: Stay with child, inform Allergy Lead, call parents
2. Anaphylaxis signs: Call 999, state "suspected anaphylaxis". Administer AAI immediately into outer thigh.
3. Send a second person to get help and medication.
4. If no improvement after 5-10 minutes, give second AAI if available
5. Record incident and inform parents

Training:

All staff will complete annual allergy awareness training, this is provided by the Sutton School Nurse team.

New staff and supply staff will receive induction within 4 weeks.

Training records kept by Emma Cooke (Assistant Headteacher).

Record Keeping:

- Log of all allergic reactions/near misses
- Monthly AAI expiry checks
- Annual report to governors
- Parents notified of any incident involving their child

Links to other policies:

This policy links to: Medical Needs Policy, Health & Safety