St Patrick's RC High School

Allergy Safety Policy

Review Date: **2026**

Date of Next Review **2027**

Approval by: **Governing Board**

Statutory

St Patrick's RC High School

School Mission Statement

Our outstanding school community is guided by the gospel values of: love, forgiveness, reconciliation, justice, integrity, humility and truth. Faith and worship are lived, taught and celebrated. We recognise the importance of service to others and the opportunity to be witnesses to Christ in our community.

All are unique and strive for personal growth. We celebrate the pursuit of academic excellence, applaud ambition and value the achievements of all. Our pupils are expected to achieve their best and use their learning to make a difference in the world they live in.

Aims

Section 34 of the Children's Wellbeing and Schools Act 2026 requires that LA maintained schools, academies and PRUs must have an allergy safety policy. A named member of the senior leadership team in each school, college or early years setting should have responsibility for allergy safety, including driving the implementation of the allergy safety policy and contributing to or leading review of the policy. In our school Mrs Jen Sykes, Business and Finance Manager is responsible. She can be contacted at sykes.j@stpatricksrchigh.co.uk

This policy will be reviewed at least annually and more often where incidents or "near misses" suggest areas for improvement. Any review will take account of any incidents and "near misses" and should seek to learn lessons from them. This is essential where incidents suggest that policies or procedures may leave individuals at risk.

Roles and Responsibilities

All staff present during times when pupils are scheduled to be on site have received allergy awareness training.

Annual allergy awareness training ensures all staff:

- Have an awareness of allergy, the risks it poses, how allergic reactions can occur and how to manage it;
- Understand that allergy includes multiple conditions (food allergy, asthma, eczema, hay fever, others), which can co-exist;
- Understand the difference between food allergy, coeliac disease and food intolerance;
- Can identify the range of symptoms of allergic reactions;
- Understand and can recognise anaphylaxis;

Know how to respond in an emergency, including:

- calling emergency services and informing parents;
- how to locate and administer emergency medication (adrenaline for anaphylaxis, asthma reliever inhaler for an asthma attack).
- training on how to use the medication/device in an emergency (whether prescribed to a given person or a school's "spare" adrenaline devices);

Understand the impact allergy can have on a child or young person's wellbeing;

Understand the school, college or setting's allergy safety policy;

Know how to check whether an individual is on the record of those with known allergy and how to use an Allergy or Asthma Action Plan;

Understand their responsibilities in reducing the risk of individuals with known allergy coming into contact with their known allergens;

Understand how to report an allergic reaction or case of anaphylaxis (whether an incident or a "near miss").

Incident Reporting

Any first aid attendance must be recorded in the school's First Aid spreadsheet, found on One Drive – Pastoral/Folder.

Accidents or near misses which cause, or have the potential to cause, more severe injuries should also be reported to the Health and Safety Team. Some of these accidents and certain diseases and dangerous occurrences must be reported to the HSE under the Reporting of Injuries Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations (RIDDOR). The Health and Safety Team makes these reports where necessary. Such occurrences should be reported, in the first instance, to the Office Manager using the form "Report of an Accident or Dangerous Occurrence". The Office Manager will then report the occurrence to the Headteacher and LA using the on-line system. This is accessed from:

https://yourzone.salford.gov.uk/knowledge-zone/how-we-do-things/health-and-safety/health-and-safety-forms/

Minimising risk

All steps are taken to try to reduce risk. We try to limit (whether children, young people, staff or visitors) coming into contact with their known allergens.

This includes:

Measures to manage the risks of exposure to a food allergen through food provided by the school.

Measures to manage the risks of exposure to a food allergen through food brought in by others (for example parents, children and young people or staff).

An expectation that staff planning any activity should consider the risk of exposure to allergens, for example in craft, science, musical or cooking activities, or where activities involve animals.

Specific risk assessments to manage the risks of exposure to allergens in individuals with an allergy when planning external visits or trips.

Individual Healthcare Plans

Children and young people should have an Individual Healthcare Plan (IHP) if:

- they have an allergy which has a functional impact on them in school
- they are at risk of harm because of their allergy, and they require arrangements which are additional to or different from those made generally.

"Spare" adrenaline devices and Asthma inhalers

Spare epi pens/Asthma Inhalers are kept in the following locations:

PE Department - office
Reception
Canteen kitchen
Mrs Gardiner's office (next to the Medical room) - 1st floor
Food Tech room - Ground floor
Science prep room - 2nd floor

These devices are checked every 6 months to ensure they remain working and in date

Devices are stored in a clear plastic box attached to the wall, which is accessible

The locations of the devices ensure no child is more than 5 minutes for a device

Visits and trips

Spare EpiPens for trips, are stored in the Main Office and can be collected for use on visits and trips

Any student, parent, carer or staff member who has a concern relating to an allergy or potential anaphylaxis is to speak with Linda Slater. She can be contacted via enquiries@stpatricksrchigh.co.uk or on 0161 921 2300