

# Epipens Policy



Date of Amendment: March 2023  
Review Date: March 2026

## **Policy regarding the use of Epipens in school**

It is acknowledged by staff and governors of this school that there has been an increase in children suffering with various forms of allergies in the population as a whole. It is also understood that there will be some children in this school who may have, or develop, allergies during their time here.

For the majority of children this is not a problem. With help and support from the School Nurse, the school staff and their parents they will learn to live with their allergies, e.g. hay fever, rashes etc. They will manage any medication themselves and develop strategies to cope with the discomfort of blocked noses, itchiness or other minor symptoms. They will also learn to avoid the source of their allergies such as certain foods, soft drinks, dogs, cats, birds, wool etc.

Occasionally, allergies can be life threatening. When the school is notified about a child with an extreme allergic reaction for which an Epipen is required to be kept in school a meeting is held between the parents, Headteacher, School Nurse and designated first aider to establish a care plan. The care plan is communicated to the child's GP and is signed by all parties. A copy of the care plan is kept in the child's personal file.

In addition:

### **The school will:**

Keep two clearly labelled Epipens in the school and ensure the child's teacher knows where they are kept:

1. In the School Office
2. In the child's classroom in a safe but accessible place

Ensure all staff, including non-teaching staff, mid-day assistants and supply staff are made aware of the child and their allergy.

Keep a photograph of the child and details of their allergy in the class register. In addition this information is also displayed on the noticeboard in the staff room and at various points throughout the school.

Ensure there are sufficient designated first aiders responsible for administering Epipens. In addition, all staff, including mid-day assistants will have access to annual Epipen training arranged by the School Nurse.

Make arrangements for the safe keeping and transportation of medication and care plans for school trips.

The school meals service will endeavour to ensure that "at risk" ingredients are not used in food preparation.

The school meals service will be made aware of children who suffer from an allergy and the nature of the allergy.

Epipens will be taken to school meals by a designated member of staff for those children with allergies.

Notify parents of all children at the school that nut products should be excluded from packed lunches in order to minimise the risk to those children with allergies.

### **The parents will:**

Complete the personal details form for the child and inform the school that their child has had an anaphylactic shock or other serious symptoms, or has been diagnosed as having a severe allergy to food or other substances.

Update the school if a child is no longer allergic to particular foods.

Check the 'use by' date on the Epipens in school and provide replacements.

### **The child will:**

Be aware of the foods/activities which could put him/her at risk and avoid them.

Act sensibly with regards to food sharing.

Report the onset of symptoms to a member of staff as soon as possible.