



Archibald First School
Archibald Street
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Headteacher Mrs R Turner

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Important Update: Our School Allergy Policy and New Safety Requirements

Dear Parents and Carers'

The health, safety, and wellbeing of all our pupils is our highest priority. We are writing to share important updates regarding our school allergy and anaphylaxis policy, following the introduction of statutory guidance under **Benedict's Law** (part of the Children's Wellbeing and Schools Act).

Benedict's Law was established in memory of five-year-old Benedict Blythe, who tragically lost his life to anaphylaxis at school. The new statutory guidance sets clear, mandatory standards for schools in England to ensure children with allergies are fully protected.

What This Means for Our School

We want to ensure our school is a safe, inclusive environment for every child. As part of our updated policy, we have implemented the following mandatory measures:

- **Comprehensive Allergy Policy:** We have updated our whole-school Allergy Policy, which is available to view on the school website ([Archibald First School - Policies](#)) This should also be read in conjunction with the Parents' Summary of First Aid and Medicines in School Policy.
- **Staff Training:** All school staff receive regular training in allergy awareness, avoidance strategies, and emergency response procedures, including how to administer emergency medication.
- **Spare Emergency Medication:** The school now holds in-date spare adrenaline auto-injector (AAI) pens on-site for emergency use, compliant with national health guidelines.
- **Individual Healthcare Plans (IHPs):** We work closely with families and healthcare professionals to maintain a personalized healthcare plan for every child diagnosed with an allergy.

How You Can Help

To keep all of our children safe, we ask for your continued support and cooperation:

- **Inform Us of Changes:** Please notify the school office immediately if your child develops any new allergies, medical conditions, or if their prescribed medication changes.
- **Allergen-Smart Reminders:** If your child brings a packed lunch from home, please remind them not to share food with other pupils. Please remember that we are a nut-free and nut based products free school.
- **Medication Updates:** Ensure any prescribed in-date medication (such as antihistamines or auto-injectors) provided to the school is checked regularly and replaced before its expiry date.

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Working together with our community helps ensure a safe and supportive learning environment for every student. If you have any questions regarding your child's Individual Healthcare Plan or our updated policy, please contact the school office to make an appointment

Next Steps:

Please complete this form for each child you have in school <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/eHAEqpZ1tu>

Can we ask that this form is complete this weekend?

Once completed, school will then send an updated Individual Health Care Plan form to you to be completed (where needed). These are to be returned ASAP and one per medical condition/ allergy will need to be completed. Once received by school, we will then arrange a time to discuss the contents together.

Update and Permissions for Spare Adrenaline Auto Injector Pens.

Archibald First School holds 4 spare AAI pens in school (Jext Brand)- 2 each of different strengths based on ages of use) for use in emergency situations. These are not a replacement for a student's own adrenaline device of which all children are expected to have 2 in school.

Under the new policy, these will be used in the event of any child displaying symptoms of anaphylaxis unless a parent/carer has provided written notification that they may not be used on their child/children.

If you do **not** want a spare Adrenaline Auto Injector used on your child if anaphylaxis is suspected, you must write to the school office or email the school office to provide this information.

Thank you for your cooperation and support.

Yours sincerely,

Rebecca Turner
Headteacher

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