



# Benedicts Law- Allergy compliance Policy 2026

## **Simon Marks Jewish Primary Whole-School Allergy Policy**

**Compliance Status:** Statutory - Benedict's Law (September 2026)

**Reviewed:** September 2026

**Next Review:** September 2027 by the Governing Body

### **1. Statement of Intent**

Simon Marks Jewish Primary is committed to providing a safe, inclusive, and welcoming learning environment for all pupils, including those living with severe allergies and at risk of anaphylaxis.

#### **Inclusion and Wellbeing.**

Simon Marks Jewish Primary will ensure that pupils with allergies can participate fully in lessons, clubs, educational visits, celebrations and all aspects of school life. Allergy-related bullying, teasing, intimidation or deliberate allergen exposure will be treated as a serious breach of the Behaviour Policy.

In accordance with **Benedict's Law** and the Department for Education's statutory guidance *Allergy Safety in Schools*, allergy safety is treated as a collective, whole-school responsibility.

This policy ensures that all school staff are equipped to prevent exposure to allergens, recognize the signs of an allergic reaction and act instantly in an emergency.

### **2. Key Roles and Responsibilities**

**Named Senior Lead for Allergy Safety:** The Headteacher has overall responsibility for allergy safety, implementation of this policy and compliance with statutory requirements. Administrative responsibilities may be delegated to appropriate staff.

#### **School Office Responsibilities**

The school office will:

- maintain allergy records on the school's management information system
- notify relevant staff immediately of changes to allergy information
- maintain records of incidents and near misses
- maintain records relating to medication, training and Individual Healthcare Plans
- support induction and briefing arrangements for temporary and new staff
- assist the Headteacher in monitoring compliance with this policy.
- maintain systems to ensure prescribed and emergency medication is stored appropriately, monitored regularly and readily accessible in accordance with the pupil's Individual Healthcare Plan.
- ensure that new, temporary, agency and volunteer staff receive an allergy safety briefing before undertaking duties involving pupils and that records of such briefings are maintained.

**The Governing Body:** The Governing Body will:

- monitor compliance and ensure the policy is published transparently on the school website.
- receive regular reports on significant health and safety incidents, including allergy-related incidents where appropriate, and will monitor implementation of this policy through its normal safeguarding and health and safety arrangements.

**All School Staff:** Including teachers, teaching assistants, supply staff, catering teams, and lunchtime supervisors, must complete mandatory annual allergy awareness training and know how to execute an emergency response.

### **3. Individual Healthcare Plans (IHPs)**

- Every pupil with a known or suspected risk of a severe allergy will have a dedicated **Individual Healthcare Plan (IHP)** paired with a British Society for Allergy and Clinical Immunology (BSACI) or [Allergy UK Allergy Action Plan](#).
- **Diagnosis Threshold:** A formal, specialist allergy clinic diagnosis is *not* required to initiate an IHP if a clear functional risk is identified by a GP or parent.
- IHPs will detail specific triggers, symptoms, daily management safeguards, and designated emergency protocols. Plans must be updated annually or immediately following an incident.
- Pupils with both allergies and asthma may be at increased risk during a severe allergic reaction. Where applicable, Individual Healthcare Plans will include both conditions and relevant management arrangements.

### **4. Medication and Spare Emergency AAls**

**Pupil Medication:** Parents must provide two in-date Adrenaline Auto-Injectors (AAls) for their child if prescribed. These must be stored safely in an unlocked, clearly labelled location accessible to staff within 2 minutes.

**School Spare AAls:** Under Benedict's Law, the school stocks a central register of **Spare emergency AAls**. These are held in the main school office and are accessible **within 5 minutes** from anywhere on the school grounds.

Spare AAls may be used in accordance with current legislation, Department for Education guidance, manufacturer instructions and the school's emergency procedures.

The Named Senior Lead or delegated member of staff will check all prescribed and spare AAls at least termly to ensure they remain in date and suitable for use.

## **5. Daily Risk Reduction and Safeguards**

- **Catering & Mealtimes:** The catering provider Caterlink must implement strict cross-contamination barriers. Allergen matrices must be checked daily. High-risk allergens e.g. peanuts, are strictly restricted from school-provided meals and packed lunches.
- The catering provider will provide the school with copies of relevant allergen management and cross-contamination risk assessments, together with details of staff training arrangements and monitoring procedures. Any allergen incident or significant concern identified by the provider must be reported immediately to the Headteacher.
- **Classrooms and Activities:** Food-sharing is strictly prohibited. If appropriate, staff must vet all raw materials to ensure no target allergens are introduced to classrooms.
- **School Trips & Extracurriculars:** A comprehensive risk assessment must be completed for every off-site visit. The pupil's prescribed AAls, emergency contact forms and a trained staff member must accompany the group on all trips.

## **6. Staff Training Schedule**

**Mandatory Training:** General first-aid certification is recognized as insufficient. All staff will undergo formal, annual **Allergy Awareness & Emergency Response Training**.

Temporary, agency, volunteer and newly appointed staff will receive an allergy safety briefing before commencing duties with pupils. Staff who have not yet completed full allergy awareness training must be familiar with the school's emergency procedures and arrangements for accessing emergency medication.

The latest staff training was in March 2026. Allergy awareness and emergency response training will be refreshed annually through the school's training programme. Alternative arrangements will be made for staff unable to attend scheduled training sessions.

## **7. Incident Recording and Near-Miss Reporting**

- Any allergic reaction, however minor, or any "near miss" (e.g., accidental exposure without a reaction, or an allergen being brought into a restricted zone) must be formally logged.
- The Named Senior Lead will review the incident log termly to identify system gaps, update risk mitigation protocols, and report findings to the Governing Body.

- All allergic reactions and near misses must be reported immediately to the school office and Headteacher and recorded in accordance with the school's accident and near-miss reporting procedures. Significant incidents will be reviewed by the Headteacher to determine whether further investigation, control measures or policy amendments are required.

## **8. Emergency Response Procedure**

In the event of suspected anaphylaxis:

1. Administer an AAI immediately.
2. Call 999 and state that anaphylaxis is suspected.
3. Send for additional trained support and retrieve a spare AAI if required.
4. Administer a second AAI if symptoms persist and clinical guidance indicates this is necessary.
5. Contact parents/carers as soon as emergency services have been called.
6. Remain with the pupil until medical professionals arrive.
7. If a pupil experiencing an allergic reaction also has asthma, emergency responders and healthcare professionals will be informed of this as part of the emergency response.