LPS Mayfair Allergy Safety Policy

Policy Statement

LPS Mayfair is committed to providing a safe, inclusive and supportive environment for all pupils, staff, visitors and contractors with allergies. The school recognises that allergies can have a significant impact on health, wellbeing, attendance and participation in school life. We are committed to reducing the risk of allergic reactions and ensuring that all staff are prepared to respond effectively in an emergency.

The school recognises that anaphylaxis is a medical emergency requiring immediate treatment with adrenaline and urgent medical assistance. All staff have a duty to act promptly and appropriately when an allergic reaction is suspected.

Named Allergy Lead

The school's designated Allergy Lead is:

Hannah Sheehy
Senior Deputy Head and Designated Safeguarding Lead

The Allergy Lead is responsible for:

- Overseeing the implementation of this policy.
- Maintaining oversight of pupils with diagnosed allergies.
- Ensuring appropriate Individual Healthcare Plans (IHPs) are in place.
- Coordinating staff training and refresher training.
- Monitoring allergy incidents and near misses.
- Ensuring emergency medication arrangements remain effective.
- Leading post-incident reviews and lessons learned.
- Communicating with parents, staff and healthcare professionals regarding allergy management.
- Reporting significant concerns to the Headteacher and Governors where appropriate. [anaphylaxis.org.uk], [allergyschool.org.uk]

Legal and Regulatory Framework

This policy should be read alongside:

- Children and Families Act 2014
- Equality Act 2010
- Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974
- Supporting Pupils at School with Medical Conditions
- Keeping Children Safe in Education
- Benedict's Law and the Department for Education Allergy Safety Guidance
- School First Aid Policy
- Educational Visits Policy
- Safeguarding Policy [gov.uk], [allergyschool.org.uk]

Scope

This policy applies to:

- All pupils.
- All employees.
- Supply staff.
- Volunteers.
- Contractors.
- Visitors.
- Before-school, lunchtime and after-school activities.
- Educational visits and residential trips.

Roles and Responsibilities

Headteacher

The Headteacher will ensure that:

- Appropriate allergy management arrangements are in place.
- Adequate resources are available to implement this policy.
- Staff receive suitable training.
- Emergency medication is available and maintained.

Allergy Lead

The Allergy Lead will:

- Maintain an allergy register.
- Ensure Healthcare Plans are reviewed annually or sooner if required.

- Monitor compliance with this policy.
- Investigate allergy incidents and near misses.
- Ensure parents are informed of significant incidents.

Staff

All staff must:

- Be aware of pupils with severe allergies.
- Familiarise themselves with relevant Healthcare Plans.
- Attend mandatory allergy training.
- Take all allergy concerns seriously.
- Respond immediately to suspected anaphylaxis.
- Report incidents and near misses.

Parents and Carers

Parents are responsible for:

- Informing the school of any diagnosed allergy.
- Providing up-to-date medical information.
- Supplying prescribed medication where required.
- Informing the school of changes to medical needs.
- Participating in reviews of Healthcare Plans.

Identification of Pupils with Allergies

The school will:

- Maintain an up-to-date allergy register.
- Record allergies on the school's management information system.
- Keep emergency contact information accessible.
- Ensure relevant staff are aware of pupils with serious allergies.
- Review records at least annually and whenever changes occur. [allergyschool.org.uk], [gov.uk]

Individual Healthcare Plans

An Individual Healthcare Plan (IHP) will be developed for any pupil whose allergy presents a significant health risk.

The IHP may include:

- Details of allergens.
- Signs and symptoms of reaction.
- Prescribed medication.
- Emergency procedures.
- Storage locations for medication.
- Contact information.
- Educational visit requirements.

Healthcare Plans will be reviewed annually or sooner where circumstances change. [gov.uk], [allergyschool.org.uk]

Allergy Risk Management

LPS Mayfair does not operate an "allergen-free" environment. Instead, the school adopts a risk-reduction approach.

The school will:

- Promote handwashing before and after eating.
- Ensure food is not shared between pupils.
- Encourage safe food practices.
- Consider allergy risks when planning activities.
- Assess allergy risks during educational visits.
- Consider allergy requirements when arranging external providers and catering.
- Promote inclusion while managing risk appropriately.

Reasonable adjustments will be made for pupils with allergies in accordance with equality legislation.

Medication

Prescribed Medication

Pupils with severe allergies should have access to their prescribed medication in accordance with their Healthcare Plan.

Spare Adrenaline Auto-Injectors

The school maintains spare adrenaline auto-injectors (AAIs) for emergency use.

Spare AAIs:

- Are stored at Reception.
- Are clearly identified.
- Are checked regularly.
- Are replaced before expiry.
- May be used in an emergency where anaphylaxis is suspected in accordance with current guidance. [anaphylaxis.org.uk], [gov.uk]

Training

All staff who are likely to be on site when pupils are present will receive allergy awareness training.

Training will include:

- Understanding allergies.
- Recognition of allergic reactions.
- Recognition of anaphylaxis.
- Use of adrenaline auto-injectors.
- Emergency procedures.
- Incident reporting requirements.

Training will be refreshed at least annually and whenever significant procedural changes occur. Records of training will be maintained. [gov.uk], [allergyschool.org.uk]

Emergency Procedure for Allergic Reactions

Mild to Moderate Reactions

Staff should:

1. Reassure the pupil.
2. Follow the pupil's Healthcare Plan.
3. Monitor symptoms closely.
4. Seek support from a First Aider if required.
5. Contact parents where appropriate.
6. Escalate immediately if symptoms worsen.

Suspected Anaphylaxis

Where anaphylaxis is suspected:

1. Administer the pupil's prescribed adrenaline auto-injector immediately.
2. If unavailable, use the school's spare AAI.
3. Call **999** and state that anaphylaxis is suspected.
4. Request an ambulance urgently.
5. Notify the nearest First Aider.
6. Notify **Hannah Sheehy, Allergy Lead**, as soon as practicable.
7. Contact parents/carers.
8. Monitor the pupil continuously.
9. Administer a second AAI after five minutes if symptoms persist and a second device is available.
10. Remain with the pupil until emergency services arrive. [gov.uk], [anaphylaxis.org.uk]

Positioning During Anaphylaxis

- If the pupil feels faint, lay them flat and raise their legs.
- Do not allow them to stand or walk.
- If vomiting, place them in the recovery position.
- If breathing difficulties predominate, they may sit upright.
- Monitor breathing and responsiveness continuously.

Educational Visits

Before any visit:

- Allergy risks must be considered within the visit risk assessment.
- Relevant medication must accompany the pupil.
- Staff must be aware of emergency procedures.
- Emergency contact information must be available.
- Catering arrangements must be checked where applicable.

Recording and Reporting

All allergy incidents and near misses must be recorded.

Records should include:

- Date and time.

- Location.
- Individual involved.
- Nature of reaction.
- Medication administered.
- Emergency services involvement.
- Outcome.
- Actions taken.

The Allergy Lead will review incidents to identify lessons learned and opportunities for improvement. Benedict's Law specifically promotes improved incident and near-miss reporting processes. [gov.uk], [allergyschool.org.uk]

Monitoring and Review

This policy will be:

- Reviewed annually.
- Reviewed following any significant allergy incident.
- Updated in line with legislative or regulatory changes.