

ALLERGY SAFETY POLICY

Owner:	Head
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Status: DRAFT — pending confirmation of site-specific details before Governor/Board adoption

Policy Statement

LPS Clapham 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:

Name	Lottie Davidson
Role	Allergy Lead

The Allergy Lead is a named member of the senior leadership team, in line with the Department for Education's Allergy safety in schools statutory guidance. The Allergy Lead is responsible for:

- Overseeing the implementation of this policy.
- Maintaining oversight of pupils with diagnosed and suspected allergies.
- Ensuring appropriate Individual Healthcare Plans (IHPs) are in place, including for pupils awaiting formal diagnosis.
- Coordinating staff training and refresher training.
- Monitoring allergy incidents and near misses.
- Ensuring emergency medication arrangements remain effective and accessible within five minutes anywhere on site.
- 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/Board where appropriate.
- Publicising this policy annually to staff, pupils and parents, and ensuring it is published on the school website.

Legal and Regulatory Framework

This policy should be read alongside:

- Children and Families Act 2014, Section 100 (duty to support pupils with medical conditions) and Section 100A (duty to maintain an allergy safety policy), as inserted by the Children's Wellbeing and Schools Act 2026 (Royal Assent 29 April 2026)

- Department for Education, Allergy safety in schools — statutory guidance (published 6 July 2026, in force from September 2026)
- Equality Act 2010
- Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974
- Supporting Pupils at School with Medical Conditions (2015, pending replacement guidance)
- Keeping Children Safe in Education 2026
- Human Medicines (Amendment) Regulations 2017 (legal basis for holding spare adrenaline auto-injectors without individual prescription)
- LPSC First Aid Policy
- LPSC Educational Visits Policy
- LPSC Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy

LPS Clapham is an independent school. The direct statutory duty under Section 100A currently applies to maintained schools, academies and pupil referral units. The Government has committed to extending an equivalent policy duty to independent schools through amendments to the Independent School Standards, expected from January 2027. Pending that, this policy adopts the statutory guidance as the school's benchmark, in anticipation of the equivalent duty and because Ofsted/ISI inspection frameworks already expect it to be demonstrated in practice.

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.
- A named senior leader holds responsibility for allergy safety.

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 awareness training, in addition to any first aid 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 or suspected 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.

Individual Healthcare Plans

An Individual Healthcare Plan (IHP) will be developed for any pupil whose allergy presents a significant health risk, including where a formal diagnosis is still being investigated. The absence of a diagnosis is not a reason to delay putting an IHP in place where medical need is clear.

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.

Allergy Risk Management

LPS Clapham 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, held in pairs and stored so that they can be brought to any pupil on site within five minutes.

Spare AAIs may be used in an emergency where anaphylaxis is suspected, including where a pupil's own prescribed device is unavailable or misfires, where they have no prescribed device, or where anaphylaxis presents for the first time.

Dosage held:

- 150 micrograms — for children under age 6.
- 300 micrograms — for individuals aged 6 and over.

Storage locations

Spare AAAs (and inhalers) can be found:

- Reception
- Staff Room

Spare AAAs are clearly identified, checked regularly, and replaced before expiry. AAAs accompany pupils on sporting fixtures and educational visits.

Training

All staff who are likely to be on site when pupils are present will receive allergy awareness training. This is a standalone requirement and is not satisfied by first aid training alone.

Training will include:

- Understanding allergies, and the distinction between an allergy, an intolerance and coeliac disease.
- Recognition of allergic reactions and of anaphylaxis.
- The school's own allergy policy and how individual pupils' IHPs work in practice.
- Correct use of adrenaline auto-injector devices.
- Emergency procedures.
- Incident recording and escalation requirements.

Training will be refreshed at least annually and given to new starters and supply staff as they join. Records of training will be maintained.

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:

7. Administer the pupil's prescribed adrenaline auto-injector immediately.
8. If unavailable, use the school's spare AAI.
9. Call 999 and state that anaphylaxis is suspected.
10. Request an ambulance urgently.
11. Notify the nearest First Aider.
12. Notify Lottie Davidson, Allergy Lead, as soon as practicable.
13. Contact parents/carers.
14. Monitor the pupil continuously.
15. Administer a second AAI after five minutes if symptoms persist and a second device is available.
16. Remain with the pupil until emergency services arrive.

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, including a spare AAI kit, 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.

Publication and Review

This policy will be:

- Reviewed at least annually, and following any significant allergy incident.
- Updated in line with legislative or regulatory changes, including any regulations made under Section 100B of the Children and Families Act 2014.
- Publicised in writing to staff, pupils and parents at least annually.
- Published on the school website.
- Available for inspection by Ofsted/ISI as evidence of the school's arrangements for supporting pupils with medical conditions.