

Maintained Schools – Allergy Awareness & Benedicts Law

Benedicts Law

Benedict's Law is a set of national protections designed to improve allergy safety in schools. In February 2026, the English Government confirmed that the principles of Benedict's Law will be implemented through new statutory guidance on supporting children with medical conditions and allergies in schools, and will also be enshrined in primary legislation, making these protections part of the legal framework governing all schools in England. Schools are now expected to take clear, demonstrable action to improve allergy awareness, prevention, and emergency response.

New: DfE Allergy safety in schools, published 6th July 2026

Statutory guidance about the support that pupils with allergies must receive in schools.

Allergy safety policy template

Individual Healthcare Plan template

Mandatory from **1 September 2026**

What the New Law and Allergy Safety Guidance Means for Schools

1. Every school must have an Allergy Safety Policy
2. Every school must appoint a named senior leader responsible for allergy safety
3. There must be robust identification systems for pupils with allergies
4. All staff should receive annual allergy awareness training
5. Emergency Medication - Spare adrenaline auto-injectors (AAIs) must be stocked and accessible
6. Children with allergies should have an Individual Healthcare Plans (IHPs)
7. There needs to be stronger systems and communication in schools
8. All schools must record 'Serious Incidents and Near Misses'
9. Every school must make arrangements that promote inclusion, wellbeing and participation in all school activities.

Guidance on the use of adrenaline auto-injectors in schools

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5a829e3940f0b6230269bcf4/Adrenaline_auto_injectors_in_schools.pdf

Make use of your National College membership to support you with this new guidance.

1. How to Manage Allergies & Anaphylaxis in Compliance with Benedict's Law Guidance document made in conjunction with Anaphylaxis UK.
<https://nationalcollege.com/resource/guidance/how-to-manage-allergies-anaphylaxis-in-compliance-with-benedict-s-law>
2. Deliver whole staff training made in conjunction with Anaphylaxis UK - **Certificate in Allergy & Anaphylaxis Awareness.** <https://nationalcollege.com/courses/allergy-and-anaphylaxis>
Make sure to add in information about your school policy, emergency response plan and how to record incidents.

3. Deliver whole staff training made in conjunction with Anaphylaxis UK - Certificate in **Asthma Awareness** <https://nationalcollege.com/courses/asthma-awareness> **Make sure to add in information about your school policy, emergency response plan and how to record incidents.**

Where to get further support:

LCC Health, Safety and Wellbeing Team

- LTS page for information and guidance documents - <https://secure2.sla-online.co.uk/v3/Service/Details/6883>
- 0116 305 5515
- healthandsafety@leics.gov.uk
- Use AssessNet to record incidents or near misses

Register for a free trainer EpiPen: <https://cloud.email.viatrixconnect.com/EpiPen-Trainer-Pen-Registration>

Get Ready for September:

- ☐ Read the **DfE Allergy safety in schools** [Statutory guidance](#) .
- ☐ Identify a SLT allergy lead.
- ☐ Ensure governors receive regular oversight reports.
- ☐ Include allergy risks on the school's risk register.
- ☐ Have a published allergy safety policy, reviewed annually.
- ☐ Update your visitor arrangements - Your allergy safety policy should set out clear arrangements for identifying individuals with allergies, including **visitors**, their known allergens, and whether they carry medication such as adrenaline devices.
- ☐ Ensure all staff receive annual allergy training, the guidance states what must be include. (The guidance expects all staff who may be present when pupils are on site to receive allergy awareness training). Build training into annual safeguarding and induction programmes.
- ☐ Consider provisions for wrap around care and include in policies and training.
- ☐ Make sure pupils and adults with an allergy have robust Individual Healthcare Plans.
- ☐ Stock and manage spare adrenaline devices of the correct dosage for their pupils, for use in emergency situations. Pg 40 of the guidance sets out how many spare devices a school should purchase.
- ☐ It is recommended that schools keep emergency asthma reliever inhalers alongside "spare" adrenaline devices.
- ☐ Focus on inclusion, not restriction. The guidance specifically discourages unnecessary exclusion and suggests schools focus on being "allergy aware" rather than relying on blanket "nut-free" approaches.
- ☐ Strengthen food safety arrangements - Meet regularly with catering providers and seek assurance around allergen management systems.
- ☐ Include allergy-related bullying within behaviour and anti-bullying procedures.
- ☐ Consider having a practice anaphylaxis drill.