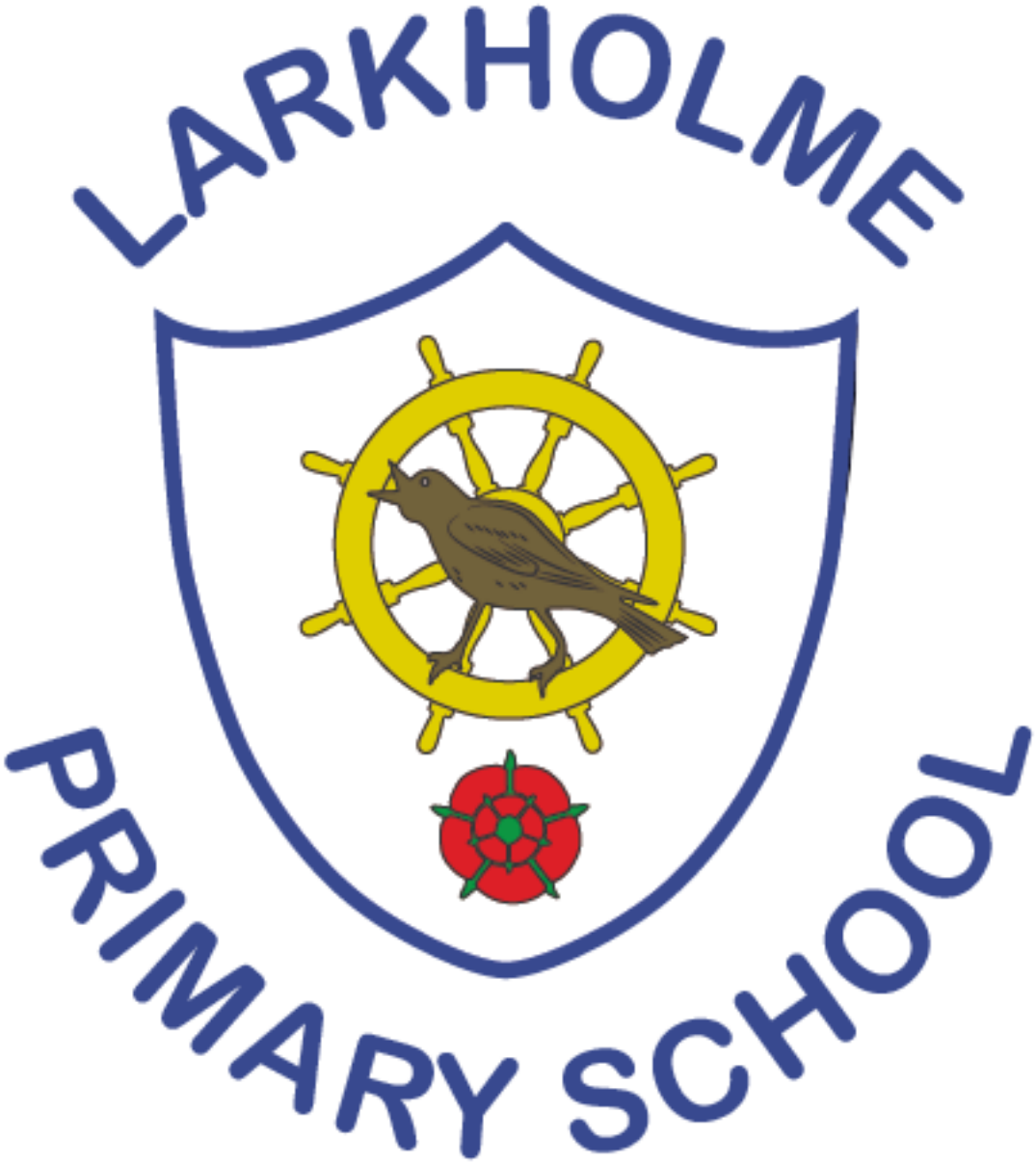


Allergy Safety Policy 2026

Mission Statement

- We will create a happy, secure and stimulating learning environment in which all children can grow in confidence, develop their full potential and where academic excellence can be achieved.

- We will provide a nurturing environment and value and recognise the uniqueness of every child.

- We will equip the children with the resilience and perseverance to become creative and independent thinkers and to become learners for life.

- We will provide engaging and varied learning activities across the full breadth of the National Curriculum and equip the children with a thorough understanding of the basic skills of English, Mathematics, Science and Computing.

- We will challenge the children's minds and bodies and give them a desire to learn and achieve.

- We will promote British Values and ensure the children become caring, tolerant and respectful citizens within the school and wider communities.

- We will prepare children well for the next steps in their lives by promoting self-discipline and the positive mindset which will allow them to aim high in all they do.

- We will ensure children know how to keep themselves safe when using technology.

RESPECT – RESILIENCE – RESPONSIBILITY

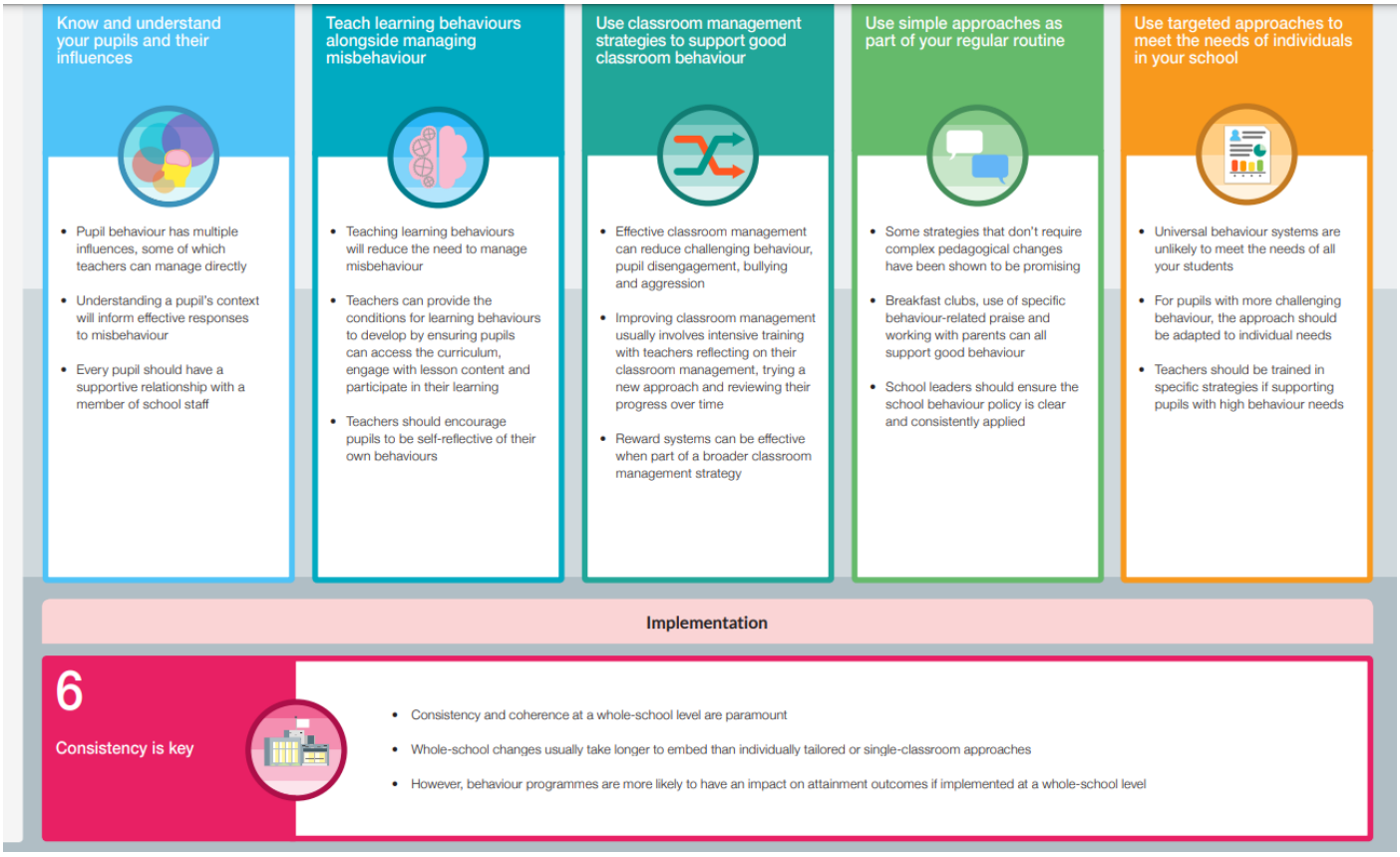
Our Values:

At Larkholme Primary School, we have 3 core values that underpin everything we do. The 3 core values are:

- **Respect**
- **Resilience**
- **Responsibility**

Alongside our core values, we also promote the fundamental British Values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

Research:



Our Rules:

- **Ready**
- **Safe**
- **Respectful**

1. **Statement of Intent**

This policy reflects the school's commitment to meeting current statutory duties and forthcoming national expectations under *Benedict's Law*, ensuring the highest

standards of allergy safety and safeguarding for all pupils. It outlines the procedures and responsibilities for managing allergies within school to:

- Safeguard pupils with known or suspected allergies
- Minimise risk of exposure to allergens
- Ensure effective response to allergic reactions and anaphylaxis
- Promote an inclusive environment where all pupils can participate safely

The school recognises that allergies can be life-threatening and must be managed in line with statutory duties under the **Children and Families Act 2014** and DfE guidance on supporting pupils with medical conditions. [gov.uk]

2. Scope

This policy applies to:

- All pupils (including those with diagnosed allergies or risk of anaphylaxis)
- All staff (teaching, support, catering, premises)
- Volunteers and visitors
- All school activities, including off-site visits and clubs

3. Definition of Allergies

An allergy is an immune response to a substance (allergen) that is normally harmless. Severe allergic reactions (anaphylaxis) can affect:

- Airway
- Breathing
- Circulation

Common allergens include:

- Peanuts and tree nuts
- Milk, egg, fish, shellfish
- Sesame
- Insect stings
- Latex
- Medicines

4. Legal and Statutory Duties

The school complies with relevant legislation and national guidance, including:

- **Children and Families Act 2014** – Duty to support pupils with medical conditions [gov.uk]
- **Food Information Regulations 2014** – Allergen labelling requirements [gov.uk]
- **DfE "Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions" guidance**

In addition, the school recognises and is preparing for strengthened national requirements arising from **"Benedict's Law" (expected implementation from September 2026)**. This emerging statutory guidance places additional duties on schools to enhance allergy safety.

These include:

- Maintaining a **comprehensive and clearly documented allergy policy**
- Ensuring **mandatory staff training** in allergy awareness, recognition of symptoms, and emergency response
- Holding and maintaining access to **spare adrenaline auto-injectors (AAIs)** for emergency use
- Developing robust **Individual Healthcare Plans (IHPs)** for pupils with allergies
- Strengthening **incident recording, review, and continuous improvement processes**

These measures are designed to ensure that schools take a consistent, proactive approach to preventing and managing allergic reactions and to improve pupil safety. [gov.uk]
The school will keep this policy under regular review to ensure full compliance with all statutory requirements as they are enacted.

5. Roles and Responsibilities

Governing Body:
- Ensure compliance with statutory requirements
- Approve and review this policy

Headteacher/SBM:
- Ensure effective implementation of this policy
- Ensure staff training is in place
- Nominate a lead for allergy management

Office/SENDCO:
- Maintain allergy register
- Coordinate Individual Healthcare Plans (IHPs)
- Share with Catering Staff

Staff:
- Know pupils with allergies in their care
- Follow IHP's
- Recognise symptoms and act in emergencies

Catering Staff:
- Provide accurate allergen information
- Follow safe food preparation procedures
- Prevent cross-contamination
- Know pupils with allergies in their care
- Follow IHP's
- Recognise symptoms and act in emergencies

Parents/Carers:

- Provide accurate medical information
- Supply in-date medication
- Update school of any changes

Pupils:

- Avoid sharing food
- Follow agreed safety measures

6. Identification and Care Planning

- All allergies are recorded on admission or when notified
- Individual Healthcare Plans (IHPs) are created where required
- Plans are developed in partnership with parents and healthcare professionals
- Allergy Action Plans may serve as IHPs for anaphylaxis cases [allergyuk.org]

7. Risk Reduction and Prevention

The school adopts a whole-school approach to allergy awareness and prevention:

- Clear allergen information for all food provided
- No food sharing policy
- Handwashing before/after meals
- Cleaning routines to reduce cross-contamination
- Risk assessments for pupils with allergies
- Safe management of classroom activities involving food

Schools must ensure pupils with dietary needs are supported even when menus change or substitutes are used. [gov.uk]

8. Medication and Storage

- Prescribed adrenaline auto-injectors (AAIs) are held for named pupils
- Regular medication is always kept in the office for self-administration and is:
    - Clearly labelled
    - Easily accessible
    - Stored according to manufacturer guidance

The school will hold **spare AAIs** for emergency use where appropriate

9. Staff Training

The school ensures that:

- All staff receive allergy awareness training
- Key staff are trained in:
    - Recognition of allergic reactions
    - Use of adrenaline auto-injectors
- Training is refreshed regularly

Government expectations include compulsory allergy training to improve safety. [gov.uk]

10. Emergency Procedures

In the event of a suspected allergic reaction:

1. Follow the pupil's IHP
2. Administer medication (e.g. AAI) without delay if indicated
3. Call 999 immediately
4. Stay with the child until help arrives
5. Contact parents/carers

All incidents are recorded, reported, and reviewed to improve practice.

11. Inclusion and Safeguarding

- Pupils with allergies will not be excluded from activities
- Reasonable adjustments will be made (e.g. trips, events)
- Risk assessments completed for all visits
- Medication accompanies the pupil on visit
- Staff trained in emergency procedures attend visit
- The school promotes:
    - Awareness
    - Anti-bullying (e.g. "allergy bullying")
    - Respect for medical needs

A whole-school approach supports inclusion and safeguarding. [anaphylaxis.org.uk]

12. Communication

- Allergy information shared with relevant staff
- Parents informed of allergy-related procedures
- Catering providers receive accurate pupil data
- Visitors and supply staff are briefed where necessary

13. Monitoring and Review

- Policy reviewed annually or sooner if required
- Incidents reviewed for lessons learned
- Training and risk assessments audited