Lift College

ALLERGY SAFETY IN SCHOOLS · ENGLAND

Benedict's Law checklist for schools

In force since 1 September 2026 for maintained schools, academies and pupil referral units. Tick each line to see where your school stands.

Required the Department for Education says schools must **Expected** the guidance says schools should **Good practice**

POLICY AND LEADERSHIP

- [ ] We have a written allergy safety policy, and it is published — Required
- [ ] The policy is reviewed at least once a year, and after any serious incident or near miss — Expected
- [ ] A named member of the senior leadership team leads on allergy safety (not the catering manager) — Expected
- [ ] We are "allergy aware" rather than "nut-free" — Expected

STAFF TRAINING

- [ ] Every adult present when pupils are on site has allergy awareness training at least once a year: teachers, TAs, office, site and catering staff, clubs, supply and agency staff, regular volunteers — Required
- [ ] Training covers spotting and responding to anaphylaxis, using adrenaline, our policy and how to report incidents (first aid alone is not enough) — Expected
- [ ] We keep a record of who was trained and when their refresher is due — Good practice

PUPILS AND PLANS

- [ ] Pupils whose allergy affects them in school have an Individual Healthcare Plan, written with them and their parents — Required
- [ ] Each plan has the Allergy or Asthma Action Plan attached and says where devices are kept — Expected
- [ ] Trips have a risk assessment for each pupil at risk, their own adrenaline and trained staff with them — Expected

EMERGENCY MEDICATION

- [ ] We stock spare adrenaline auto-injectors, in pairs, unlocked, labelled, in a place everyone knows — Expected
- [ ] We have asked parents for consent in advance to use spares (not legally required in an emergency) — Good practice

INCIDENTS AND DRILLS

- [ ] Serious incidents and near misses are recorded, reported to parents and governors, and reviewed in a "no blame" spirit — Required
- [ ] We run allergy safety drills and record the results — Good practice

Source: Department for Education, Allergy safety in schools: statutory guidance (July 2026), and section 34 of the Children's Wellbeing and Schools Act 2026. Templates for the policy and plans are on GOV.UK.

Free, accredited staff training: liftcollege.co.uk/resources/benedicts-law

Accredited cpd Activity
The CPD Standards Office