

Allergy Safety Statement

The Trust is committed to providing a safe, inclusive and supportive environment for all pupils, staff, visitors and contractors who are affected by allergies¹.

We recognise that allergic conditions, including life-threatening anaphylaxis, can have a significant impact on the health, wellbeing, safety and educational experience of children and young people. The Trust is committed to ensuring that allergy safety is embedded across all its academies through effective leadership, risk management, staff training, clear communication, student awareness and education, and well-established emergency response arrangements.

The Trust expects every academy to:

- Have implemented its own Allergy Safety Policy that reflects the requirements of statutory guidance and local practice.
- Identify and maintain accurate records of students with allergies * and those at risk of anaphylaxis.
- Ensure that Individual Healthcare Plans are in place where required and are reviewed at least annually or sooner if there is a change to medication, medical needs or professional advice.
- Provide appropriate allergy awareness and emergency response training for staff.
- Maintain effective arrangements for the storage, accessibility and administration of allergy medication, including prescribed and spare adrenaline auto-injectors where applicable.
- Minimise exposure to known allergens through proportionate risk assessment and control measures.
- Ensure that students with allergies can participate fully in education, enrichment activities, educational visits and wider academic life.
- Foster a culture of awareness, inclusion and respect, ensuring that students with allergies are protected from bullying, discrimination or unnecessary exclusion.
- Record, investigate and evaluate allergy incidents and near misses, using the findings to strengthen processes, improve practice and reduce further risks.
- Work collaboratively with students, parents, carers, healthcare professionals, catering providers and other stakeholders to support the effective management of allergies.

The Trust requires all academies to have clear emergency procedures for responding to allergic reactions and anaphylaxis included in their Allergy Safety Policy. All staff should understand their role in recognising symptoms, seeking appropriate assistance and responding promptly in accordance with training and local procedures.

The Trust delegates operational responsibility for allergy management to academy leaders; oversight of compliance with statutory requirements is carried out by the Director of Operations and the Compliance Administrator. The Trust will seek assurance that effective arrangements are in place, that risk is being appropriately managed and that students with allergies are safe, supported and able to thrive within every Trust academy.

¹ For the purposes of this statement, the term 'allergies' refers to medical conditions in which an individual's immune system overreacts to specific substances (allergens), including, but not limited to, foods, medicines, environmental triggers, insect stings and substances that may cause skin reactions

This statement should be read alongside each academy's local policies relating to allergy safety, medical conditions, health and safety, educational trips and visits, and safeguarding.