



## Allergy and Anaphylaxis Policy

This policy applies to pupils, staff, volunteers, Governors, sub-contractors and those on work or training placements.

To be read and used in conjunction with the School Health and Safety Policy, Staff Induction Policy, First Aid Policy

To be read in conjunction with DESC Allergy and Anaphylaxis Management Policy for Schools in the Isle of Man.

### Rational

**Henry Bloom Noble School** is committed to a whole school approach to the health care and management of those members of our school community with allergies. The school recognises that these members of our school's community (pupils and staff) may suffer from potentially life threatening allergies to certain foods, stings or bites. The intent of this policy is to minimise the risk of any child or staff member suffering an allergic reaction or allergy induced anaphylaxis whilst at school and to ensure staff are prepared to manage such emergency situations should they arise.

### Aims

To ensure all pupils and staff with allergies are kept safe.

To ensure all pupils and staff with allergies have a clear plan to support them.

To provide a safe learning environment for all .

To raise the awareness of all members of the community regarding severe allergies

### Definitions

**Allergy** - A condition in which the body has an exaggerated response to a substance (e.g. food or drug). Also known as hypersensitivity.

**Allergen** - A normally harmless substance that triggers an allergic reaction in the immune system of a susceptible person.

**Anaphylaxis** - Anaphylaxis, or anaphylactic shock, is a sudden, severe and potentially life threatening allergic reaction to food, stings, bites, or medicines.

**EpiPen** - the brand name for syringe style device containing the drug adrenaline, which is ready for immediate intramuscular administration.

### Nut/Allergy Aware

HBN School is food allergy aware. This is a change from our previous policy which stated we were 'nut free'. This change is to better reflect what efforts we can all do to minimise the risk to children with allergies whilst appreciating that we cannot be completely confident that all food items brought in are nut free or that another child has not consumed nuts before coming into school.

There are a considerable number of students at our school who have severe food allergies. The most common of these allergens are peanuts, tree nuts, eggs, fish and shellfish, soy and wheat. The most serious risk in our school is nut allergies which can cause life threatening anaphylactic reactions to some of our students.



## Management

This policy will be managed by:

- Parents and caregivers being requested NOT to send food to school that contains nuts (especially peanuts). This includes:
  - \* Packs of nuts
  - \* Peanut butter or Nutella sandwiches
  - \* Fruit and cereal bars that contain nuts
  - \* Chocolate bars or sweets that contain nuts
  - \* Sesame seed rolls (children allergic to nuts may also have a severe reaction to sesame)
  - \* Cakes made with nuts
  - \* Any home cooked meals for packed lunches that are made from nuts
- Staff supervising eating at lunchtime.
- Students being encouraged NOT to share food.
- Students being encouraged to wash hands before and after eating.
- Staff training in understanding and dealing with Anaphylaxis (severe allergic reactions) as the need arises.
- Parents and caregivers being requested NOT to send boxes that have previously contained nut products, e.g. cereal boxes, muesli bars with nuts, cake boxes, biscuits.

## Management of Students with allergies.

Students who have been identified by a doctor as having anaphylaxis as a result of an allergy will be required to submit to the school a Health Care Plan. The health care plan will be kept with the child's epipens in a clearly marked bag in the classroom. Photos of the child with the allergy will be kept in the staff room, and behind each cupboard door so that all staff can identify the child and know what to do in an emergency.

## Promotion

The policy will be promoted by:

- Staff being informed and provided with training opportunities.
- Publication of this policy on the school website
- Pupils being informed via teachers, support staff and signs
  - to be responsible when eating and handling food both inside and outside of school
  - helping students to understand that **foods they can enjoy eating can be also be** dangerous to others
  - encouraging students to support their class mates with allergies by eating and handling food responsibly

## Risk Assessment regarding allergies

- Staff will be alert to any obvious signs of nuts being brought in, but they will not inspect all food brought into school.
- If staff do notice a student that has brought in food that contains nuts or nut products these items will be removed and parents requested not to send in a gain. Staff will stote it away from children and ensure they wash their hands after handling.

Date: June 2023, June 24

Next Review: June 2025