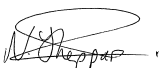


Allergy Safety Policy

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Signature:	
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Introduction and Core Principles

In line with current statutory guidance and best practice, we are committed to providing a safe, inclusive, and welcoming environment for all children, young people, staff, and visitors with allergies. Recognising the serious and potentially life-threatening risk posed by anaphylaxis, this dedicated policy establishes robust risk-mitigation measures and emergency response protocols.

This policy has been developed with regard to the Department for Education's statutory guidance, *Allergy Safety in Schools*, published July 2026. Carisbrooke College will have regard to this guidance when implementing and reviewing its allergy safety arrangements.

Allergy is a spectrum of different allergic diseases. Reactions occur when a susceptible person is exposed to something (an "allergen") they are allergic to. Asthma, food allergy, eczema and seasonal rhinitis (hay fever) are all forms of allergy.

Anaphylactic reactions usually begin within minutes of being in contact with the allergen i.e. eating a trigger food, though can occur several hours later (i.e. allergy to Mammalian meat). Anaphylaxis involves difficulty in breathing and affects the heart rhythm. In extreme cases there could be a dramatic fall in blood pressure leading to collapse.

Anaphylaxis can progress rapidly and can be life-threatening. Adrenaline must be administered without delay when anaphylaxis is suspected and 999 must be called.

Anaphylaxis can occur without any other signs (such as a skin rash) being present. Always consider anaphylaxis in someone with a known food allergy who has sudden difficulty in breathing. Giving adrenaline in this context is very safe and may be lifesaving.

The most common causes of "whole body" allergic reactions – including anaphylaxis – are:

- foods (e.g. peanuts, tree nuts, cow's milk/dairy foods, egg, wheat, fish/shellfish and sesame);
- insect stings (e.g. bee, wasp);
- medication (e.g. antibiotics, pain medicines such as ibuprofen);
- latex (e.g. rubber gloves, balloons, swimming caps).

Even for food allergy, the vast majority of anaphylaxis reactions require the person to have eaten the food, although less serious allergic reactions can happen through skin or other contact. Anaphylaxis reactions due to skin contact are very rare. Students experiencing an allergic reaction should be monitored in accordance with their Allergy Action Plan and Carisbrooke College's emergency procedures. If symptoms progress or anaphylaxis is suspected, adrenaline must be administered without delay.

Carisbrooke College has a whole Carisbrooke College awareness approach, because it ensures all staff and students are aware of what allergies are, the importance of avoiding the individual's allergens, the signs and symptoms, how to manage the allergic reactions and to ensure procedures are in place to minimise risk of exposure.

Coeliac disease and food intolerance can present symptoms which are similar to those of food allergy; it is important that Coeliac disease and food intolerance should be managed through dietary avoidance, but these conditions do not pose a risk of anaphylaxis and so they are not within the allergy safety policy.

Eczema, asthma and allergies sometimes occur together – known as the atopic triad. It is important that these are managed well in order to keep the individual healthy. Asthma training is needed by all staff and an individual's asthma care plan needs to be included with their individual healthcare plan. These conditions are not included in this allergy safety policy.

Carisbrooke College understands that some severe allergies may constitute a disability under the Equality Act 2010 where they have a substantial and long-term adverse effect on a person's ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities. The act considers a person disabled if they have a physical or mental impairment that has a substantial and long-term negative effect on their ability to carry out normal daily activities. Seasonal rhinitis (such as hay fever) is explicitly excluded from the definition of disability, unless it aggravates the effect of another health condition.

Emergency Treatment and Management of Anaphylaxis

What to look for:

Symptoms usually come on quickly, within minutes of exposure to the allergen.

Mild to moderate allergic reaction symptoms may include:

- a red raised rash (known as hives or urticaria) anywhere on the body
- a tingling or itchy feeling in the mouth
- swelling of lips, face or eyes
- stomach pain or vomiting
- mild throat tightness
- sudden change in behaviour

Mild to moderate symptoms should be managed in accordance with the individual's Allergy Action Plan. Antihistamines may be prescribed for some mild allergic reactions, but they must not be used as a substitute for adrenaline where anaphylaxis is suspected.

More serious symptoms are often referred to as the ABC symptoms and can include:

- **AIRWAY** - swelling in the throat, tongue or upper airways (tightening of the throat, hoarse voice, difficulty swallowing).
- **BREATHING** - sudden onset wheezing, breathing difficulty, noisy breathing, persistent cough.
- **CIRCULATION** - dizziness, feeling faint, sudden sleepiness, tiredness, confusion, pale clammy skin, loss of consciousness.

The term for this more serious reaction is anaphylaxis. In extreme cases there could be a dramatic fall in blood pressure. The person may become weak and floppy and may have a sense of something terrible happening. This may lead to collapse and unconsciousness and, on rare occasions, can be fatal.

As soon as anaphylaxis is suspected, adrenaline must be administered without delay.

Action:

- Keep the individual where they are, call for help and do not leave them unattended.
- LIE individual FLAT WITH LEGS RAISED – they can be propped up if struggling to breathe but this should be for as short a time as possible.
- USE ADRENALINE DEVICE WITHOUT DELAY and note the time given. Adrenaline should be administered immediately using the prescribed device in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.. Specific instructions vary by brand – always follow the instructions on the device.

- CALL 999 and state ANAPHYLAXIS (ana-fil-axis).
- The second dose may be administered where needed or directed by medical professionals
- If no signs of life commence CPR.
- Call parent/carers as soon as possible.

Whilst you are waiting for the ambulance, keep the individual where they are. Do not stand them up, or sit them in a chair, even if they are feeling better. This could lower their blood pressure drastically, causing their heart to stop.

All individuals must go to hospital for observation after anaphylaxis even if they appear to have recovered as a reaction can recur after treatment.

Minimising Risk and Exposure to Allergens

Minimising risk and the exposure to allergens is central to ensuring that individuals with allergies are safe from harm. Even a small amount of allergen can cause a reaction. Any food can cause a reaction with serious consequences for the individual and Carisbrooke College will only eliminate a food following a risk assessment supported by medical advice when necessary. Where a food is restricted, this will be to the smallest area for the time necessary; for example, the cooking room for the duration of the lesson when the student with allergy is cooking. Blanket bans, especially to nuts, create a false sense of security. Whilst there are 14 key food allergens that cause over 90% of reactions, any food can cause a reaction.

Carisbrooke College is allergy aware ensuring that the staff and students are actively aware of the risk posed by allergens, take steps to minimise the risk of exposure and have robust emergency response plans in place.

Carisbrooke College completes a school wide allergy risk assessment that seeks to minimise the risks of exposure to known allergens. The risk assessment will include:

- Identifying the food used within the curriculum and making adaptations to remove allergens that pose a risk for the whole group, not just the student who has the allergy.
- Conducting specific risk assessments to manage the risks of exposure to allergens in individuals when planning external visits or trips
- Identify measures to manage risks of exposure to a food allergen through food brought in by others (for example, parents, students, staff).
- Identify measures to manage the risks of exposure to a food allergen through food provided by Carisbrooke College.
- Putting in reasonable measures to manage the risk of individuals being exposed to allergens where they have a known allergy to airborne or contact allergens
- Identifying non-food allergens within the environment and making adaptations to remove/reduce allergens that pose a risk; for example, therapy dogs would require enhanced cleaning and limiting to specific areas, hygiene measures after students have worked with the therapy dog.

Carisbrooke College will ensure that allergy is included in all Carisbrooke College risk assessments to identify risks and plan control measures to minimise the risk of exposure.

Carisbrooke College will ensure that the risk of exposure is minimised by:

- All Carisbrooke College staff allergy training every year
- Educating students through awareness assemblies and within PSHE

- Communicating with all visitors, temporary staff and cover staff that they will be teaching a student with an allergy and ensuring that the member of staff has been trained in allergy and anaphylaxis emergency response
- Working closely with parents/carers and health professionals to understand the student's allergy
- Monitoring this policy to ensure that the agreed practices are implemented
- Establishing and maintaining high hygiene standards amongst staff, students and visitors.

Food Provision and Catering:

Carisbrooke College will manage the risk of food allergy and provide clear information on allergens in food provided by:

- Carisbrooke College will ensure that its catering contractor complies with Food Standards Agency allergen legislation and all relevant food safety regulations.
- Ensuring Carisbrooke College caterers provide information on food allergens to parents/carers and have this available for the students to check independently
- Provide students' allergen information to the caterers in a timely manner to ensure that students can eat safely
- Enabling parents/carers to liaise with the catering company or Carisbrooke College
- Identify students with allergies at point of service, the till system will flash a warning message which alerts the canteen team to that child's allergy.
- Ensure that food is always labelled as unlabelled food poses a potentially greater risk of allergen exposure than packaged food with precautionary ("may contain") labelling suggesting a risk of contamination with allergen. This applies to foods used within the classroom curriculum (e.g. cooking) as well as that from Carisbrooke College kitchen or canteen.
- Teach students not to food share, trade food or share utensils or food containers with the reasons why

When staff provide food for the students, they receive additional training to ensure they understand how to read labels for food allergens and how to prevent cross-contamination during the handling, preparation and serving of food.

Where food is not directly provided by Carisbrooke College (for example brought in as treats or to celebrate birthdays) parent/carer permission will be sought in advance to ensure inclusion and safety for students with allergies.

These procedures apply to Carisbrooke College-led breakfast and after school provision. Where this is provided by a third party, Carisbrooke College, ensures that this policy is shared and the third-party provider meets the same procedures.

Ensuring that Carisbrooke College events, as best practice, follow FSA (Food Standards Agency) legislation for food labelling, creating allergen matrices as necessary. Ensuring that staff and volunteers who are serving food have a basic awareness of allergen management (free FSA training available <https://allergytraining.food.gov.uk/>)

Students eligible for benefits based Free School Meals are entitled to their free meal entitlement. Carisbrooke College will work with parents/carers to determine the best way of ensuring that students receive their meal.

Medication and Adrenaline Devices (ADs)

People at risk of anaphylaxis are prescribed two adrenaline devices which they should carry with them at all times. This includes the journey to and from;

- Carisbrooke College
- the classroom
- lunch area
- playground
- sports field
- when on visits or trips

Serious anaphylaxis is a time critical situation; delays in administering adrenaline have been associated with fatal reactions. Adrenaline should be administered without delay when anaphylaxis is suspected. Prescribed and spare adrenaline devices must therefore be stored or carried so that they are readily accessible, with spare devices accessible within five minutes from any location on the Carisbrooke College site.

Adrenaline devices must be stored at room temperature (in line with manufacturer's guidelines) and not be exposed to extremes of heat. They should not be refrigerated or left in direct sunlight.

Spare Adrenaline Devices

The Human Medicines (Amendment) Regulations 2017 permit "spare" adrenaline devices to be used for the purpose of saving a life. This might be, for example, a child presenting for the first time with anaphylaxis due to an undiagnosed allergy.

Carisbrooke College will ensure that students prescribed adrenaline auto-injectors, and the Carisbrooke College's spare emergency adrenaline devices, are accessible within **five minutes** from any location on the Carisbrooke College site. Emergency adrenaline devices will be stored in clearly identified, unlocked locations and in pairs, in accordance with statutory guidance. Where necessary, additional emergency kits will be located to ensure timely access across the Carisbrooke College site.

The Heads of Year will maintain a register of all students prescribed adrenaline auto-injectors and will undertake regular checks, at least monthly, to ensure that prescribed and spare adrenaline devices remain in date and available for use. Parents/carers will be contacted in advance of expiry to request replacement medication. Any spare adrenaline devices that are used or expire will be replaced as soon as reasonably practicable and disposed of safely in accordance with clinical waste guidance.

Carisbrooke College holds: 4 Epipens. 2 x 300mcg (adult dose) and 2 x 150mcg (junior dose). These are located in: The year office. They are stored in orange and white containers and labelled 'Emergency Anaphylaxis Kit'

Allergy Lead/Heads of Year are responsible for checking that adrenaline devices are in date and remain clear (not cloudy) on a monthly basis. They will secure replacements one month before the current adrenaline device expires

Adrenaline devices that are used will be disposed of in a sharps box, kept in the Medical/Hygiene room on the ground floor or given to the paramedic. Adrenaline devices that are out of date or where the adrenaline has degraded will be taken to a pharmacy to be disposed of. In order to receive a sharps box Carisbrooke College should register with the Local Authority which will be collected by them.

The Human Medicines (Amendment) Regulations 2017 do not require consent to have been obtained for “spare” adrenaline devices to be used. It can be good practice for the Carisbrooke College to obtain advance consent from parents or the young person for “spare” adrenaline devices to be used, so that in an emergency, consent can be assumed to be in place. However, in an emergency situation anyone may take reasonable action to save a life without checking whether prior consent has been given.

Student self-management:

Depending on their level of understanding and competence, students will be encouraged to take responsibility for and to always carry their own two adrenaline devices on them in a suitable bag/container in their school bag.

Older students and teenagers should, whenever possible, assume responsibility for their emergency kit under the guidance of their parents. However symptoms of anaphylaxis can come on very suddenly, so Carisbrooke College staff need to be prepared to administer medication if the young person cannot.

Staff Training and Emergency Response

All staff, including teaching staff, support staff, catering staff and others who may oversee students including at breakfast or after school clubs will be trained in allergy awareness and emergency response. Carisbrooke College is responsible for ensuring that supply, cover, coaching, peripatetic staff have received allergy awareness training.

Training can be online or face to face.

All Staff will cover:

- Allergy Awareness
- Recognition of anaphylaxis
- How to call for help
- Where the emergency devices are
- The whole school emergency procedure
- How and where to report any incidents, including near misses
- How and where to check students allergies and medical plans

Staff who may be required to administer adrenaline will:

- Have practical training, using a training device
- Understand the specific devices used for each child within school.

Emergency preparedness

Carisbrooke College will annually hold a practice response to anaphylaxis, review how the practice went and update policy and procedures.

Throughout the year staff will be reminded of key aspects of the policy such as:

- how to find out who has an allergy
- the storage of spare adrenaline
- practice with adrenaline trainer devices

Carisbrooke College will communicate key messages regarding risk reduction leading up to festivals, trips and end of term celebrations.

During fire drills and lockdown practices, Carisbrooke College will ensure that a student's adrenaline device is with them. During fire drills, lockdown practices and emergency evacuations, arrangements must ensure that students have access to their prescribed emergency medication. Staff responsible for students with allergies must consider how emergency medication will remain accessible during an evacuation or lockdown.

Roles and Responsibilities:

Allergy Lead and governing body:

The Academy Committee are responsible for ensuring that Carisbrooke College's policy sets out the arrangements to reduce the risk of individuals coming into contact with their known allergens and sets out the emergency response plan for cases of anaphylaxis. The Academy Committee monitor this policy with it being a standing agenda item at meetings. Carisbrooke College have a named governor - Sara Higgs - who works closely with the Allergy Lead and reports to the meetings.

Carisbrooke College includes the risks pertaining to students and staff with allergy on the Carisbrooke College's risk register.

Carisbrooke College has a named member of the senior leadership team - Natalie Bracegirdle - who is responsible for allergy safety which includes driving the implementation of the allergy safety policy and contributing to the review of the policy.

The Allergy Lead is responsible for:

- systems to collect allergy information during the enrolment process, ensuring that this information is shared with catering. Outside of the normal admission point, ensures that information is shared with staff and catering teams as soon as possible but within two weeks of the student starting
- holding a register of students and staff with allergies including whether they hold adrenaline and whether they have an allergy action plan
- ensures that systems are robust for the identification of students at mealtimes
- communication about:
 - the policy
 - the students who are on the register of those with allergies
 - the importance of recording and reporting near misses and incidents
- communication with:
 - governors to provide updates about the policy implementation
 - Health and Safety and Designated Safeguarding Leads to keep allergy safety as part of their roles
 - Outside agencies such as Health and Safety Executive (HSE) if a report under RIDDOR is needed
 - Caterer; the procedures in the kitchen and the procedures for ensuring that the students with allergies are provided with a safe meal
 - Parents/carers to enable them to input into IHPs (Individual Healthcare Plans) and to request allergy action plans when appropriate
 - Students to develop an understanding of allergy through information assemblies and workshops, participating in awareness days and weeks

- spare adrenaline devices and making sure these are checked and in date, with replacements being secured before the current ones expire
- that IHPs are created and communicated
- Training
 - o ensuring that all staff receive annual allergy awareness and emergency response training.
 - o ensures that all staff have the opportunity to practice with trainer adrenaline devices at least annually but ideally a few times a year.

All Staff:

Responsible for:

- understanding their role in implementing this policy, recognising signs of allergic reactions, and acting swiftly in an emergency
- supporting the creation of the student's IHP
- implementing the student's IHP
- Creating an inclusive curriculum
- Curriculum adaptation to minimise risks
- Completing risk assessments for, curriculum activities involving food, trips and visits including sporting events
- Building proactive relationships with parents/carers
- Reporting near misses and incidents

Parents:

Responsible for:

- Adhering to this policy
- Providing Carisbrooke College with the information they need to create individual healthcare plans
- Updating Carisbrooke College when reactions happen outside of Carisbrooke College or any changes to the student's allergy and its management.
- Ensuring that the student always has in date medication with them at Carisbrooke College

Identification of Individuals with Allergies

Admission Arrangements

During the admissions process, parents/carers are asked to provide details of any known allergies or medical conditions. Where a child has a diagnosed allergy, parents/carers will be asked to provide the appropriate medical evidence, prescribed medication, an Allergy Action Plan (where applicable) and any other relevant information before the child starts at Carisbrooke College. This enables Carisbrooke College to complete an Individual Healthcare Plan where required and ensure appropriate support and emergency arrangements are in place from the first day of attendance.

Information Sharing: UK GDPR does not prevent the sharing of a student's health information (special category data). Relevant information is securely compiled and shared as necessary in a controlled way with teaching staff, support staff, supply cover, and catering teams while maintaining appropriate data privacy. This is done through: Arbor

Transition: Allergy information and existing care plans are shared as part of a student's transition. Carisbrooke College will request allergy information from the previous school or setting and will consider whether any of the arrangements are suitable to implement. Carisbrooke College works with

parents/carers and the student if appropriate to write a new IHP. Staff will provide information about students for transition visits ahead of a formal move.

Supporting Staff and Visitors

Carisbrooke College recognises that members of staff, regular visitors and volunteers may also have allergies. Where Carisbrooke College is informed of a known allergy, reasonable steps will be taken to ensure appropriate emergency arrangements are in place and that relevant information is shared with those who need to know, whilst maintaining confidentiality in accordance with UK GDPR.

Student Individual Healthcare Plans (IHPs) and Allergy Action Plans

Allergy action plans

- These are clinical documents that are created by a GP / allergy nurse or allergy clinic. They detail the student's allergy and medication.
- Allergy Action Plans contain information about the student's allergy, symptoms and emergency medication. They should be completed by an appropriate healthcare professional and shared with Carisbrooke College and parents/carers. Staff will follow the individual's Allergy Action Plan and Carisbrooke College's medication and emergency procedures when administering medication.
- These will only be updated by the medical professional following a review of the student's allergy management, this could be annually or 5 yearly. Parents/carers or Carisbrooke College need to update the photo of the student annually so that the student is recognisable.

Allergy action plans are issued for students who have an IgE food allergy and often a venom allergy that could lead to anaphylaxis. They are not issued for all allergies. Allergy Action Plans are provided where clinically indicated and will set out the individual's known allergy, symptoms and emergency treatment.

Individual Healthcare Plans (IHPs)

Individual healthcare plans are an essential communication tool that provide clarity about the arrangements which need to be in place to ensure that a student is fully included in the life of Carisbrooke College. It will identify exact risk-mitigation measures that need to be followed. Individual Healthcare Plans are Carisbrooke College owned documents that are co-created by Carisbrooke College, parents/carers and students.

They should include any advice received from health professionals. If there is no advice from health professionals, information and support can be requested of Carisbrooke College if this is needed. Where a child has an allergy action plan and or an asthma plan, this must be included with the IHP.

It is good practice to review IHPs annually or when staff change however they must be reviewed if an incident or near miss occurs. They need to be brought to the attention of supply or cover staff and be passed on during transition to a new school.

Carisbrooke College will ensure that:

- students with an allergy action plan and/or an asthma plan have an individual healthcare plan
- students without an allergy action plan or asthma plan but have an allergy that needs active management over and above what other students need will have an individual healthcare plan
- individual healthcare plans are created whilst students are waiting for a diagnosis

Carisbrooke College Trips and External Visits

Carisbrooke College ensures that students with allergies are fully included in every trip, sporting event, or extracurricular activities. A risk assessment addressing allergen exposure in each activity, emergency medication, transport, and proximity to local emergency care will be undertaken with control measures identified. In order to ensure that the student is safe and included, alternative activities will be planned. This will include the safe storage of adrenaline for the duration of the school trip.

Staff leading Carisbrooke College trips will ensure they carry all relevant emergency supplies. Trip leaders will check that all students have their medication including adrenaline devices with them before departure. Students unable to produce their required medication will not be able to attend the excursion.

In conjunction with the Allergy Lead, the trip leader will review the risk assessment to determine whether the Carisbrooke College's spare adrenaline devices should be taken on the trip. Carisbrooke College will provide additional spare adrenaline devices should the risk assessment for the trip deem necessary to take them ensuring that students remaining in Carisbrooke College still have access to spare adrenaline devices should the need arise.

Carisbrooke College will notify the host school, when arranging a sporting fixture, that a member of the team has an allergy. When a sports team is provided, the students' school will ensure the students' allergies are communicated and appropriate food is provided.

- Ensure catering staff are informed of relevant food allergies.
- Consider allergy risks when planning sporting fixtures and enrichment activities.
- Ensure emergency medication accompanies students on all off-site visits and sporting events.
- Ensure staff leading activities know which students have allergies and understand the emergency procedures - SUSPECT ANAPHYLAXIS → GIVE ADRENALINE IMMEDIATELY → CALL 999 → SECOND DOSE AFTER 5 MINUTES IF NEEDED → CPR IF REQUIRED

Serious Incidents and "Near Misses":

Carisbrooke College approaches serious incidents and "near misses" in a "no blame" spirit, seeking to learn lessons and address any issues which the incident identified, so that students are better protected in the future.

Carisbrooke College is aware, when an incident occurs that materials such as residues of food consumed or handled or samples of fluids may constitute evidence, which may need to be seized and retained.

Carisbrooke College uses CPOMS to record allergic reactions (incidents) and near misses (for example accidental exposure without reaction or allergen labelling errors). All incidents are recorded as soon as practicable, reviewed by the named Senior Leadership Team member responsible for allergy safety and, where appropriate, followed by a lessons learned review.

Parents/carers are encouraged to inform Carisbrooke College of any allergic reaction or suspected allergen exposure that becomes apparent after the school day, where the reaction may be linked to activities or food provided by Carisbrooke College. Such reports will be investigated, recorded and considered as part of Carisbrooke College's ongoing review of allergy safety procedures.

The named Senior Leadership Team member responsible for allergy safety will review all allergy incidents and near misses to identify patterns, consider whether any changes to practice are required and ensure that lessons learned are incorporated into future staff training and policy reviews.

Carisbrooke College will share the report with the student's parents/carers, the student and the individual involved. They should be given the opportunity to discuss what happened and to contribute their views to the consequent lessons learned review. Carisbrooke College will confirm what it has learned from the incident and outline any actions it is taking as a result. The student's IHP will be updated if necessary.

If unsafe food was supplied by Carisbrooke College operating as a food business, the incident must be reported to the local authority environmental health team.

Wellbeing and Support

At Carisbrooke College allergy safety is a priority and actions to ensure that students are included and safe are embedded into the school's culture. Students with allergies become anxious as a result of the risk of exposure to allergens and the potential for anaphylaxis, which may be compounded by living with difficult-to-control asthma or eczema.

Carisbrooke College:

- regularly communicates with students, parents and staff about allergy awareness;
- includes allergy awareness within assemblies, tutor time and PSHE where appropriate;
- plans events and celebrations with consideration for students with allergies;
- actively challenges and addresses any bullying related to allergies or dietary needs;
- provides additional reassurance and support for students with allergies who are anxious about attending Carisbrooke College;
- works closely with parents, healthcare professionals and external agencies to ensure appropriate support is in place.

Safeguarding:

Carisbrooke College recognises that a safeguarding referral may be needed if an incident highlighted concern that the child or young person might be at an increased risk of being neglected, abused or exploited by persons inside or outside of their family unit because of their medical condition. This might occur where relevant information about a child or young person's medical condition is not provided to a school, college or setting, or where they are repeatedly sent without essential medication, thereby putting the individual at risk.

Unacceptable practice

Carisbrooke College staff are clear about what constitutes unacceptable practice and are committed to ensuring that only good practice occurs. Should unacceptable practice occur, Carisbrooke College will follow its own procedures to identify and address this using staff conduct policies.

Examples of unacceptable practice include (but are not limited to):

- preventing children and young people from easily accessing and administering their medication in line with what is agreed in their Individual Healthcare Plan (for example prescribed adrenaline devices and asthma reliever inhalers) when and where necessary;
- assuming that every child with the same condition requires the same support;
- assuming that older children and young people do not require support related to their allergy, even if they are able to take increasing responsibility for its management;
- ignoring the views of the child or young person or their parents or carer;
- ignoring medical evidence or the opinion and advice of healthcare professionals;

- assuming that a child or young person does not have an allergy because they do not yet have a diagnosis, for example while medical investigation is under way;
- sending a child or young person who becomes unwell to a Carisbrooke College office or medical room without suitable supervision. In the case of an emergency or suspected emergency (for example anaphylaxis) help should come to the child or young person;
- penalising children or young people for their attendance record if their absences are related to their medical condition, e.g. hospital appointments and health management. This includes excluding children and young people from rewards for 100% attendance where their non-attendance is the result of a medical condition. This should be reflected in attendance policies;
- requiring parents / carers (or otherwise making them feel obliged) to attend Carisbrooke College or setting to administer medication or provide medical support to their child; or
- preventing children and young people from participating or creating unnecessary barriers to them participating in any aspect of school, including external visits and trips, e.g. by requiring parents to accompany the child.

The Academy Committee will receive information, where appropriate, regarding significant allergy-related incidents, trends identified through incident monitoring and any substantial amendments made to this policy following annual review or lessons learned from incidents.

Policy Review and Publication

This policy is published openly on the Carisbrooke College website and is reviewed at least annually, or more frequently in response to local incident trends or updated statutory guidelines.

Further reading:

Anaphylaxis UK:

For teachers by teachers, the one stop shop for all school allergy needs:

<https://www.anaphylaxis.org.uk/education>

Allergy UK:

<https://www.allergyuk.org/about-allergy/types-of-allergies>

Allergy Safety in Schools July 2026:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/allergy-safety-in-Schools>

[Guidance on the use of adrenaline auto-injectors in schools](#)

Spare Pens in School:

<https://www.sparepensinschools.uk>

Benedict's law:

<https://benedictblythe.com/benedicts-law>

<https://www.anaphylaxis.org.uk/education/benedicts-law>

Food:

Allergy Guidance for

schools: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-food-standards-resources-for-schools/allergy-guidance-for-schools>

Allergy Guidance for food businesses:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/allergen-guidance-for-food-businesses>

Statutory Duties:

The duties under Section 34 of the Children's Wellbeing and schools Act 2026 place a requirement on LA-maintained schools, Academies and PRUs to have allergy safety policies, publish them and keep them under review.

The duty of care under section 3 of the Children Act 1989 for any person with the care of a child to do all that is reasonable for the purposes of safeguarding or promoting the welfare of the child;

The duties to safeguard and promote the welfare of students and students under sections 20 and 175 of the Education Act 2002, the Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014 (and associated statutory guidance Keeping Children Safe in Education) and the Non-Maintained Special Schools (England) Regulations 2015;

The duty of the employer under section 2 of the Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974 to take reasonable steps to ensure that employees are not exposed to risks to their health and safety;

The duties under the Equality Act 2010 to provide equality of opportunity for all, including those who are disabled.

The Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) SEND code of practice: 0 to 25 years.

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) statutory framework.

Links with other policies

[Safeguarding](#)

[Behaviour](#)

[Anti-bullying](#)

[Health and Safety](#)