



ANAPHYLAXIS POLICY

Anaphylaxis

Anaphylaxis is a severe, rapidly progressive allergic reaction that is potentially life threatening and which always requires an emergency response. The most common allergens in school-aged children are peanuts, eggs, cow's milks, fish and shellfish. Adrenaline given through an adrenaline auto-injector (AAI) such as an EpiPen into the muscle of the outer thigh is the most effective first aid treatment for anaphylaxis.

Symptoms of anaphylaxis can include:

- Difficulty in swallowing or speaking
- Difficulty in breathing
- Swelling of the throat and mouth
- Hives or flushing of the skin
- Abdominal cramps, nausea and vomiting
- Sudden feeling of weakness (drop in blood pressure)
- Alteration in heart rate
- Anxiety and panic
- Collapse and unconsciousness

Policy Statement

Dulwich College encourages pupils with allergies to lead as normal a school life as possible. Pupils who may experience anaphylaxis present a challenge to any school, however with sound precautionary measures school life may continue as normal for all concerned.

Approach, Procedures and Practice

Dulwich College will:

- ensure that pupils diagnosed with allergies are made to feel welcome at the College.
- strive to ensure that the College environment is favourable to pupils with allergies.
- maintain a list of all pupils with allergies and their individual care plans and allow staff access to this information. Care plans are completed by parents and medical centre staff and updated annually.

Personal data provided for use in care plans will be safeguarded and processed in accordance with the College's Privacy Notice for Parents, Pupils and Old Alleynians and the Data Protection Policy.

- ensure that the Medical Centre provides recent photographs of pupils with allergies to be displayed in appropriate areas of the College.
- ensure that the Medical Centre provides annual training to staff on what anaphylaxis is and the action to be taken in the event of a pupil having an anaphylactic reaction (including demonstrations on how to use an adrenaline auto-injector).
- inform parents that it is their responsibility to provide a spare adrenaline auto-injector and any other prescribed medication (which will be kept in the Medical Centre) and to update it when it is expired.
- will remind parents every term of the Medical Centre opening times and the fact that outside these times they will need to provide adequate medication for their child to carry with them because the medication held by the College will not be accessible (this will include any sports fixtures, trips and expeditions outside normal term time hours or term time dates).
- will inform parents of the importance of updating the College in any changes in treatments or conditions.

DUCKS (Kindergarten and Infants' School)

DUCKS will provide recent photographs of children with anaphylaxis and display in appropriate places throughout DUCKS. Two adrenaline auto-injectors for each child with anaphylaxis is kept in the Kindergarten or Infant School office as necessary. It is the responsibility of the DUCKS staff to take two adrenaline auto-injectors with the child when they are leaving to take part in an activity outside of DUCKS.

Junior School

An adrenaline auto-injector is kept in the Junior School Office. Auto-injectors are also kept at the Christensen Hall, Security Office, Medical Centre, Sports Centre, and Trevor Bailey Sports Ground. It is the responsibility of the teaching staff to take the Junior School adrenaline auto-injector with the pupil(s) when they are leaving the Junior School to take part in an activity in the Great Hall. Responsibility usually rests with the teacher leading the activity although Year 6 pupils are encouraged to carry their own auto-injectors in preparation for their transition to the Lower School.

Lower, Middle and Upper Schools

It is the responsibility of the pupil to carry their own labelled adrenaline auto-injector and any related medications with them at all times in the College. An additional adrenaline auto-injector is kept in the Medical Centre.

Boarding Houses

It is the responsibility of the pupil to carry their own labelled AAI and related medications with them at all times. In addition to an adrenaline auto-injector being kept in the Medical Centre, one is kept in the Boarding House(s) for use when necessary outside of the school day.

Trips

It is a requirement that all staff attend an anaphylaxis training session before they take a pupil who is known to be at increased risk of anaphylaxis on a day or residential trip. These sessions are mandatory and must be attended at least annually. When completing a risk assessment form for a trip the trip leader must confirm that all members of staff going on the trip have done this training. It is the responsibility of the member of staff leading a trip to ensure that they have two auto-injectors for each pupil at increased risk of anaphylaxis. If a pupil is not in possession of two unexpired AAIs they will not be allowed to go on the trip.

Boat Club

A pupil registered for sports held at the Boat Club and who is at risk of anaphylaxis must have two AAIs with them. It is the responsibility of the pupil to carry their own labelled unexpired adrenaline auto-injector and related medications with them at all times. It is the responsibility of the member of staff at the Boat Club to check that pupils attending sessions have them and without such, the pupil will not be allowed to attend the Boat Club. Additionally, the Boat Club will have two generic spare AAIs stored unlocked in a prominent position that can be used in the emergency management of anaphylaxis (see Spare Adrenaline Auto injector information within this policy)

Away Games

A pupil who is at increased risk of anaphylaxis and who is not in possession of two unexpired AAI's will not be allowed to go on any away matches or other sporting competitions away from College.

Spare adrenaline auto-injectors

(see letter from MHRA: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/clarification-of-adrenaline-autoinjector-guidance-for-schools>)

AAIs are used in the emergency management of anaphylaxis. Pursuant to the Human Medicines (Amendment) Regulations 2017 schools can obtain spare AAIs without a prescription. Subject to the following provisions, spare AAIs can be used in an emergency:

- where a pupil is known to be at risk of anaphylaxis, provided medical authorisation and written parental consent have been obtained (and are included in a pupil's care plan);
- where included in the BASCI allergy plan;
- if a pupil's own prescribed AAI is not immediately available, e.g., because it is broken, out of date, has misfired or been wrongly administered.

If a pupil is having anaphylaxis but does not have the required medical authorisation and parent consent for a 'spare' AAI to be used, the College should immediately call 999 to seek advice and authorisation to use.

Spare AAIs are located in the College at these locations; Sports centre, DUCKS, Christensen Hall, New Security Lodge, The Pavillion, Orchard/Old Blew House, Ivyholme House and Blew House, Boat House and Outdoor Centre.

New parents

New parents are required to notify the College of their son's allergies before they start at the College. Parents will be sent the British Society for Allergy & Clinical Immunology (BSACI) individual care plan used by the College to complete. Parents must provide two spare adrenaline auto-injectors and any other required medication. All items must have the prescription label with the pupil's name and instructions for administration.

No Nut Policy

The College does not support a blanket ban of any particular allergen, because it could not guarantee a truly allergen free environment. Instead, we advocate a culture of allergy awareness and education and have procedures in place to minimize the risk of an allergic reaction occurring. However, foods that do, or may contain nuts are not served by our catering department and parents and pupils are encouraged to bring nut free snacks into school. Peanuts and tree nuts are only one of many allergens that could affect pupils and as such, our catering provides information about any of the 14 major food allergens when they are used as ingredients in the food and drink provided.

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