



ST. DOMINIC'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL

GIRLS AND BOYS 2 - 18

Headmaster: Mr Peter McNabb BSc Hons PGCE

Bargate Street, Brewood, South Staffordshire, ST19 9BA, Tel +44 (0)1902 850248
enquiries@stdominicsgrammarschool.co.uk, www.stdominicsgrammarschool.co.uk

St Dominic's School Allergy and Anaphylaxis Policy

(Based on and informed by the Schools Allergy Code – schoolsallergycode.com)

1. Policy Statement and Source

St Dominic's School is committed to safeguarding the health, safety, inclusion, and wellbeing of all pupils with allergies.

This policy is based on best-practice guidance from the **Schools Allergy Code**, developed by the Benedict Blythe Foundation and The Allergy Team, with support from leading allergy clinicians and the Independent Schools' Bursars Association.

The Schools Allergy Code provides a framework for achieving a **whole-school approach** to allergy safety, recognising that allergic disease is the most common chronic condition in childhood and that anaphylaxis can be life-threatening.

This St Dominic's policy adopts the principles, guidance, and checklist standards outlined in the Schools Allergy Code.

2. Key Principles

St Dominic's follows the core principles of the Schools Allergy Code:

2.1 Every Allergy is Taken Seriously

- Allergic reactions are unpredictable.
- Every pupil with a diagnosed allergy will be included in safety measures.

2.2 Individual Needs Matter

- Each allergy is unique.
- Individual Healthcare Plans (IHPs) will be created in partnership with families.

2.3 Safety and Inclusion Come First

- The school prioritises pupil safety while ensuring full participation in school life.



3. Whole-School Approach to Allergy Management

Allergy awareness and management is the responsibility of the entire school community.

3.1 Training and Awareness

- All staff receive annual allergy and anaphylaxis training.
- Training includes:
 - Risk reduction
 - Emergency response
 - Inclusion and wellbeing support

3.2 Education of Pupils

- Allergy awareness is integrated into:
 - PSHE lessons
 - Nutrition education
 - Assemblies and school communications

3.3 Community Responsibility

- Pupils, parents, staff, caterers, and visitors all share responsibility in reducing risk.
-

4. Communication and Information

St Dominic's will:

- Maintain a clear Allergy and Anaphylaxis Policy published on the school website.
- Communicate regularly with parents and staff.
- Provide clear information about procedures and expectations.
- Maintain Individual Healthcare Plans for all pupils with allergies.
- Ensure open communication between:
 - Teachers
 - Support staff



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- Catering teams
- Parents

5. Governance and Risk Management

5.1 Designated Allergy Lead

The school will appoint a trained Designated Allergy Lead responsible for:

- Overseeing policy implementation
- Monitoring risk assessments
- Reviewing procedures
- Coordinating training

5.2 Risk Assessment

- Allergy considerations will be included in all school risk assessments, including:
 - Trips
 - Catering
 - Classroom activities
 - Events

6. Emergency Readiness and Response

St Dominic's will ensure:

- Pupils prescribed adrenaline auto-injectors have **two in-date devices** accessible at all times.
- Spare emergency adrenaline pens are held onsite.
- All staff know emergency procedures and medication locations.
- A written **Anaphylaxis Emergency Response Plan** is in place (see appendix 1)
- Regular drills and rehearsals are conducted.

7. Responsibilities

St. Dominic's Grammar School Ltd. Company Registered No.10826337
17 Lichfield Street. Stone, Staffordshire ST15 8NA



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7.1 The School Will

- Provide training
- Maintain records
- Communicate with families
- Ensure emergency preparedness

7.2 Parents Will

- Provide accurate medical information
- Supply medication
- Update the school on changes

7.3 Pupils Will

- Follow allergy safety guidance
- Avoid sharing food

8. Monitoring and Review

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Designated Allergy Lead and Senior Leadership Team.

9. St Dominic's Allergy Code Checklist

(Adapted from the Schools Allergy Code Checklist)

Whole-School Approach

- ✓ Annual staff allergy training delivered and recorded
- ✓ Allergy awareness programme for pupils and parents
- ✓ Allergy education included in PSHE



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Communication

- ✓ Comprehensive Allergy Policy in place
 - ✓ Policy published and accessible online
 - ✓ Review date scheduled
 - ✓ Individual Healthcare Plans created and shared
-

Governance and Risk Management

- ✓ Designated Allergy Lead appointed
 - ✓ Clear staff roles defined
 - ✓ Allergy included in risk assessments
 - ✓ Regular policy review process
-

Emergency Readiness

- ✓ Adrenaline pen storage/carrying policy in place
 - ✓ Expiry dates tracked
 - ✓ Spare pens located around school
 - ✓ Emergency Response Plan circulated
 - ✓ Annual anaphylaxis drill scheduled
-

10. Conclusion

By adopting this policy, St Dominic's commits to implementing the **Schools Allergy Code** to ensure a safe, inclusive, and informed environment for all pupils with allergies.



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Appendix 1

St Dominic's Grammar School

Anaphylaxis Emergency Response Plan

1. Purpose

This plan sets out the procedures to be followed at St Dominic's Grammar School in the event of a suspected or confirmed severe allergic reaction (anaphylaxis).

Anaphylaxis is a **life-threatening medical emergency** requiring immediate recognition and prompt treatment.

This plan applies to all staff, pupils, visitors, and contractors on school premises and during school activities.

2. Recognising Anaphylaxis

Staff must act immediately if any of the following symptoms appear after exposure to a known or possible allergen.

Common Early Signs

- Tingling lips or mouth
- Itchy rash or hives
- Swelling of lips, face, or eyes
- Stomach pain, vomiting

Serious Symptoms (Emergency)

- Difficulty breathing or wheezing
- Swelling of throat or tongue
- Hoarse voice or difficulty speaking



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- Pale, floppy, or confused behaviour
- Collapse or loss of consciousness

If in doubt — treat as anaphylaxis.

3. Immediate Emergency Actions

STEP 1 — CALL FOR HELP

- Send someone to alert the School Office immediately.
 - State: **“ANAPHYLAXIS EMERGENCY”** and give location.
-

STEP 2 — ADMINISTER ADRENALINE

- Use the pupil's prescribed adrenaline auto-injector (AAI) immediately.
- If unavailable, use a school spare device.
- Follow instructions on the pen.

Adrenaline must always be given FIRST.

STEP 3 — CALL 999

Dial 999 and state:

“ANAPHYLAXIS — ADRENALINE GIVEN — CHILD NEEDS AMBULANCE”

Provide:

- School name: St Dominic's Grammar School
 - Exact location on site
 - Time adrenaline was administered
-

STEP 4 — POSITION THE PUPIL



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- Lie flat with legs raised
 - Do NOT allow them to stand or walk
 - If breathing difficulty: allow sitting upright
 - If unconscious: place in recovery position
-

STEP 5 — SECOND DOSE IF REQUIRED

- If no improvement after **5 minutes**, give a second adrenaline pen.
-

STEP 6 — INFORM PARENTS

The School Office will contact parents immediately.

4. Aftercare Procedures

- A staff member must accompany the pupil to hospital.
 - Used adrenaline pens must be handed to paramedics.
 - Incident must be recorded in the school accident log.
 - A review meeting will be held following the incident.
-

5. Roles and Responsibilities

All Staff

- Know signs of anaphylaxis
 - Know emergency procedure
 - Know location of adrenaline pens
-

Designated Allergy Lead

- Oversees training and policy



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- Maintains allergy register
 - Reviews incidents
-

School Office

- Calls emergency services
 - Contacts parents
 - Coordinates response
-

6. Location of Emergency Medication

Spare adrenaline auto-injectors are located:

- School Office
- Medical Room
- Dining Hall
- Sports Hall

All locations are clearly signposted.

7. Training and Drills

- All staff receive annual anaphylaxis training.
 - Emergency drills are conducted yearly.
 - New staff receive induction training.
-

8. Key Principles

At St Dominic's Grammar School:

- **Adrenaline saves lives — administer immediately.**
- **Never delay treatment.**
- **If in doubt — treat as anaphylaxis.**

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9. Policy Review

This plan will be reviewed annually by:

- Designated Allergy Lead
- Senior Leadership Team