



Ribbleton Avenue Infant School and Nursery

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Update - Management of Anaphylaxis in School

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are writing to inform you of updated national guidance regarding the emergency treatment of anaphylaxis in schools.

From September 2026, schools are permitted to hold emergency adrenaline auto-injectors (commonly known as EpiPens) for use in the event of a severe allergic reaction. Anaphylaxis is a serious and potentially life-threatening allergic reaction that requires immediate treatment.

Research shows that approximately 30% of anaphylactic reactions occur in children with no previous history of severe allergies. Therefore, if a child displays symptoms of anaphylaxis affecting their breathing or airway, trained staff will administer an emergency adrenaline auto-injector without delay, where it is considered necessary to protect the child's life and wellbeing. This emergency treatment will be given regardless of whether prior parental consent has been received. The overriding priority in such situations is to provide potentially life-saving treatment as quickly as possible.

Following the administration of an adrenaline auto-injector:

- An ambulance will be called immediately.
- Parents or carers will be contacted as soon as possible.
- The child will continue to be monitored by trained staff until emergency services arrive.

Please be assured that all school staff have received appropriate anaphylaxis training and understand how to recognise the signs and symptoms of a severe allergic reaction and administer adrenaline safely. Children who have been prescribed their own adrenaline auto-injectors must continue to have these in school in accordance with their individual healthcare plans. We strongly recommend that two in-date devices are provided, where prescribed, so that one can be readily accessible during lunchtime and other school activities.

The safety and wellbeing of all children remains our highest priority. If you would like any further information or wish to discuss these arrangements, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Kind regards,
Mrs Bishop
(Head Teacher)

