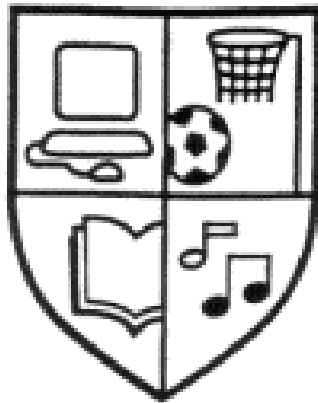


Manland Primary School

Food allergies and intolerances policy



Last Review by School	November 2023
Next Review by School	November 2026

Overview

Schools have a legal duty to support pupils with medical conditions, including allergies. Schools must adhere to legislation and statutory guidance on caring for pupils with medical conditions, including the administration of allergy medication and auto-immune injectors.

Further information on the school's legal duty to care for children with medical conditions can be found as Appendix 1 to this policy and in our policy "Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions," which is available on our school website.

Aim

The aim of this policy is to minimize the risk of adverse reactions to foods, by children who have known intolerances or allergies to any given food.

Organisation of policy

This policy has 2 aspects to it:

- Part 1 is concerned with food allergies and intolerances as they relate to school-based activities other than the provision of school meals and
- Part 2 is concerned with the provision of school meals

Part 1 – School based activities other than the provision of school meals

The school takes the following actions to minimize risk to children with food allergies and intolerances:

Specific children with food intolerances and /or allergies:

- All parents/carers complete a data collection pack prior to admission to Manland Primary School. This requests that allergies and intolerances are notified to the school.
- The school admin team and INCO review the data collection forms and Individual Healthcare Plans (IHCPs) are put in place, where necessary, by agreement between parents/carers and schools. Class staff are informed of food allergies and intolerances via the Class Information Folders and posters in the medical room. Copies of IHCPs are given to staff in Class Information Folders and the medical room.
- Prior to any food tasting activities or school cooking activity, the class teacher must check in the Class Information folder in the first instance and contact parents/carers:
 - to request permission for the child to taste the food
 - to ascertain any issues with the child touching the food or being exposed to the ingredient in a cooking environment and to agree the appropriate risk management plan e.g. child cooking first to ensure surfaces are not contaminated with the allergen, isolation from the allergens whilst cooking in the same area as other children
 - to provide the parent/carer with a full ingredients list of any cooking products (e.g. the brand and ingredient list on any prepared goods) and agree to their suitability. If necessary, request that the parent/carer provide a suitable alternative ingredient
- Admin staff display allergy/intolerance posters for all children with known allergies/intolerances. IHCPs are also updated and distributed to class teams. These are located in:
 - the office

- Class Information folders, located in class register boxes
- Auto-immune injectors, inhalers and other medication, are kept for individual children in the medical room in a named box. Children are not permitted in this room.
- Class teachers inform:
 - residential centres that provide food during off-site visits, and
 - any external organisations that might visit the school and provide any food for the children to touch, smell or taste.
 of all allergies and intolerances.
- Parents/carers are requested to notify the **school office** with any updates regarding food intolerances and allergies. Periodically the office will check with parents whether allergy and intolerance information held by the school is still correct, however it remains the responsibility of the parent/ carer to ensure the school has the latest information for their child.

General expectations in relation to food intolerances and/or allergies at Manland Primary:

The list of foods which should not be brought into school is as follows:

- Peanuts, peanut butter and other products containing peanuts
- Nutella / Chocolate spreads containing nuts
- Pesto containing nuts – Please check the ingredients carefully. Many popular products contain cashew nuts, other nuts and products which are not permitted in school
- Packs of nuts
- Fruit and cereal bars that contain nuts, peanuts or sesame e.g. tracker bars
- Sesame seeds or products containing sesame

Parents/carers are reminded that many shop bought pesto sauces contain cashew nuts and therefore cannot be brought into school. Nut free pesto, and homemade, nut-free, pesto can be used as an alternative.

As with all food brought into school, the school reserves the right to reconsider the above list should a child or staff develop an allergy, or if a new pupil or staff with an allergy joins Manland Primary.

Training

Staff participate in annual auto-immune injector and inhaler training.

Part 2 – Provision of school meals

Manland Primary School has contracted HCL (Herts Catering Limited) to provide school meals for pupils.

It is the responsibility of parents/carers to inform school and HCL of any food allergies or intolerances for their child prior to the child starting school. In the case of existing food allergies or intolerances, parents/carers must inform school and HCL of any developments/changes immediately.

If a child has a food allergy or intolerance, parents/carers need to apply to HCL for a special menu via the HCL website: <https://specialmenu.hcl.co.uk/>

HCL will be unable to provide school meals for a child until the special menu application is complete; parent/carers must provide a packed lunch for the child until the special menu is in place.

HCL have allergy/special menu policies and procedures in place to ensure the correct food is provided and labelled for those pupils with allergies, including the handling and serving of the said food.

Complex cases

In most circumstances, it should not be necessary for parents/carers to provide additional food to deliver a meal to meet their child's needs. However, in complex cases, HCL will accept dry goods to aid delivery of an appropriate menu.

The health and safety of the child is always paramount. HCL will not accept or be compelled to make use of any high risk ingredients from a third party that requires any form of temperature control under any circumstances so as not to put the health of the child at risk.