

# Frequently Asked Questions



## > Schools

**Q. What are the advantages for my school of having a SAAG?**

**A.** It will mean that you have looked at risk for the allergic child, addressed managing medicines to treat allergic reactions and have a whole school allergy awareness approach. This will lead to reassurance for staff & parents that allergic pupils can be managed safely in your school. We can help you via this website develop the policies and procedures to facilitate this process. ( look at our case study schools to see how they have led the way forward on this)

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**Q. Do we need a nut free school, or what is the best approach to deal with this issue?**

**A.** A complete nut free school is an artificial environment that would not be the same as the 'real world'. We believe that a 'whole school awareness of Allergy' is a much better approach, as it will make teachers, pupils and all other staff aware of what allergy is, the importance of avoiding the child/young persons triggers, the signs & symptoms, how to deal with allergic reactions and facilitate 'duty of care' procedures to minimise risk.

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**Q. How can a child's school ensure their safety from a severe allergic reaction?**

**A.** Avoidance of the child's allergic trigger is key, but there are rarely any absolute certainties in life so by having allergy awareness, clear policy and procedures that recognise the allergic child and a clear management pathway of what to do if that child has an allergic reaction, risk can be minimised and situations can be promptly dealt with in the most appropriate way.

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**Q. We have to isolate children at lunchtime, due to concerns they will have an allergic reaction to food in the canteen. Is this the best approach?**

**A.** In the world outside school people with allergy are not isolated. Education in safe management should enable pupils with allergy to be integrated not isolated.

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**Q. What types of things do we need to include in an allergy awareness policy? What protocols do we need to have?**

**A.** The required policies, protocols and procedures are all included in the Schools Allergy Awareness programme resource pack, which schools can sign up to access [here](#).

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**Q. What age should children be carrying their own adrenaline autoinjectors?**

**A.** Much depends on the individual child and the school. Some younger children are trained to carry their adrenaline autoinjectors, but generally by secondary school children should be carrying their own.