NHS
Norfolk and Suffolk
Integrated Care Board

Information for General Practice
Allergy Safety in Schools

The ICB has received several queries from GP practices regarding the new statutory guidance Allergy Safety in Schools, commonly referred to as Benedict's Law.

What is changing?

From September 2026, schools in England must introduce allergy safety measures, including:

- A dedicated allergy policy.
- Allergy awareness and anaphylaxis training for all staff.
- Individual Healthcare Plans (IHPs) for pupils who need allergy management.
- A supply of **spare** adrenaline auto-injectors (AAIs) for emergencies.

Are GPs required to prescribe spare AAIs for schools?

No. The requirement for schools to hold spare AAIs does **not** mean that GPs should prescribe additional AAIs for schools or provide extra devices for named pupils solely to meet a school's stock requirements.

The Human Medicines (Amendment) Regulations 2017 permit schools in England to purchase spare AAI devices for emergency use to treat anaphylaxis.

Schools purchasing spare AAIs are responsible for the cost of those devices.

How should schools obtain spare AAIs?

Schools should purchase their own supply of spare AAIs from a pharmaceutical supplier, such as a community pharmacy, using a **signed order.** Some local authorities have developed templates for schools to use. Guidance on how many AAIs (and which doses) should be purchased can be found in Using emergency adrenaline auto-injectors in schools - GOV.UK. Schools should ensure spare AAI devices are appropriate to the age profile of pupils attending the school and should seek appropriate clinical advice where required.

The signed order must state:

- The school's name.
- The purpose for which the AAIs are required.
- The total quantity required.
- The principal's or headteacher's signature.

What about a child's prescribed AAIs?

Children at risk of anaphylaxis should continue to have access to their own prescribed AAIs.

The school's spare AAI stock is intended as an emergency backup and is not a supplement or replacement for a pupil's own prescribed medication. Pupils prescribed AAIs should continue to have access to their own devices in accordance with their Individual Healthcare Plan (IHP).

Key message for practices

Schools should purchase their own spare emergency AAIs directly from a pharmaceutical supplier, such as a community pharmacy, using a signed order under the Human Medicines (Amendment) Regulations 2017. GP practices should not prescribe additional AAIs purely to meet a school's requirement to hold spare emergency stock as per the Allergy Safety in Schools statutory guidance.

Further information

- Allergy safety in schools - GOV.UK
- Using emergency adrenaline auto-injectors in schools - GOV.UK