



ALLERGY AND ANAPHYLAXIS AWARENESS POLICY

Version: September 2026 For schools where Rocksteady Music School delivers music tuition

PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy sets out how Rocksteady Music School helps keep pupils with allergies and asthma safe in the schools we work in. It applies to all Rocksteady staff who deliver or support music sessions on school sites, principally our Band Leaders. It should be read alongside the allergy and medical conditions policy of each school we attend, which takes precedence on that school's own site.

OUR POSITION

Rocksteady is a peripatetic music education provider. Our staff visit schools to deliver music lessons; we are not based in any single school. Under Benedict's Law and the DfE's *Allergy Safety in Schools* guidance (in force from September 2026), the statutory duty to hold an allergy policy, maintain spare adrenaline auto-injectors, and produce Individual Healthcare Plans rests with each school. The guidance also expects schools to ensure that visiting and peripatetic staff have completed allergy awareness training. We fully support this and train our staff so that every Band Leader who enters a school is prepared to recognise and respond to an allergic reaction, and to work safely within that school's own arrangements.

STAFF TRAINING STANDARD

All Rocksteady staff who work directly with pupils complete allergy and anaphylaxis awareness training before attending a school site, aligned with the DfE's *Allergy Safety in Schools* guidance. The training covers:

- Awareness of allergies and how allergic reactions occur.
- Recognising the signs and symptoms of an allergic reaction and anaphylaxis.
- Responding in an emergency, including calling 999.
- The safe use of adrenaline auto-injectors (e.g EpiPen and Jext).
- Awareness of acute asthma and reliever inhalers.
- Reporting of incidents and near misses.

Training is refreshed at least annually. We hold a completion certificate for each member of staff and can provide these on request for the individuals attending your school.

HOW OUR STAFF OPERATE IN YOUR SCHOOL

Our Band Leaders are visitors in your setting and follow your school's allergy and medical conditions policy while on site. On arrival, a Band Leader will:

- Make contact with your designated allergy lead or the school office.
- Ask for the relevant allergy information and any healthcare or allergy action plans for the children they will teach.

- Confirm the location of emergency medication and your emergency procedure.

Where a child in a session has a known allergy, the Band Leader will be aware of it and act in line with your plans and procedures.

WHAT THIS POLICY DOES AND DOES NOT COVER

As a visiting provider, Rocksteady does not create or hold Individual Healthcare Plans; these are prepared and held by each school for its own pupils. We do not store or supply spare adrenaline auto-injectors; these are held by the school. Our responsibility is to ensure our staff are trained, aware, and able to act appropriately within your school's policy and procedures. We rely on the school to share relevant pupil allergy information with our staff so that they can help keep children safe.

REPORTING AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

If a Rocksteady staff member is involved in or witnesses an allergic reaction, a near miss, or any allergy-related concern, they report it both to the school and through Rocksteady's internal Adverse Event reporting process. We review reports to identify any improvements to our training or procedures.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Rocksteady Music School

- Ensures staff complete allergy and anaphylaxis training.
- Maintains training records.
- Reviews incidents and near misses.
- Monitors policy compliance.

Band Leaders

- Complete required training.
- Follow school allergy procedures.
- Familiarise themselves with relevant pupil information.
- Report incidents, near misses and concerns.
- Where allergy information has not been provided, the Band Leader should proactively seek out the school office or Designated Allergy Lead

Designated Safeguarding Lead

- Maintains oversight of policy implementation.
- Reviews allergy-related incidents and trends.
- Ensures continuous improvement arrangements are in place.

REVIEW

This policy is reviewed at least annually, and sooner if statutory guidance or Rocksteady's arrangements change.

EVIDENCE AND CONTACT

Training completion certificates for the staff attending your school are available on request, or through the Schools Portal. For any questions about this policy, please contact our safeguarding team - safeguarding@rocksteadymusicschool.com

Policy reviewed by the Designated Safeguarding Lead. The policy has been developed having regard to relevant safeguarding best practice and advice obtained from safeguarding professionals, including resources produced by the NSPCC

Next review date: September 2027

Richard Bushby Designated Safeguarding Lead Date: 1st September 2026
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