

## OLD PALACE PRIMARY SCHOOL St Leonard's Street, Bow, London, E3 3BT • Tel: 020 8980 3020 • Email: admin@oldpalace.towerhamlets.sch.uk • Website: www.oldpalaceprimary.co.uk



5th December 2024

Dear Parents,

We have been asked by Tower Hamlets Public Health, to take a moment to remind everyone of an important safety measure regarding your child's journey to and from school—specifically, the use of their autoinjector pens, commonly known as EpiPens. It's crucial that these lifesaving devices accompany your child at all times, particularly in the event of an anaphylactic reaction occurring outside of school. Thank you for supporting us in keeping this medicine in school.

However, when you are dropping off or picking up your child, please ensure that you have their auto-injector with you during these transitions. Keeping it close by can make all the difference in case of an emergency.

For those children making their own way to school—typically Year 6 students—you might want to consider providing a small bag containing the auto-injector. At school, the teacher can keep hold of it throughout the day and securely return it at the end of the day for the journey home. This helps prevent any unintended access by other children who may not be aware of the seriousness of an EpiPen. Please do not ask to use the Epi Pen kept at school for your child for this purpose as we need to ensure that device is reliably kept at school at all times.

For older children, particularly those in secondary school, the expectation is generally that they should carry their own auto-injector. Encouraging them to keep it on their person teaches responsibility while ensuring they are prepared for any eventuality.

Moreover, it's vital for children to understand why they have this medication. Having a discussion about the risks associated with anaphylaxis and the importance of only using their auto-injector in an emergency can empower them to take their health seriously.

It is the parent's responsibility to ensure that their child has their EpiPen with them on the journey to and from school.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. Together, we can help keep our children safe!

Yours faithfully,

Mr G. Palmer **Headteacher** 















