

Allergies and Allergic Reactions Policy

Introduction and Purpose

At Little Stars Pre-school we are aware that children may have or develop an allergy resulting in an allergic reaction. Our aims are to ensure allergic reactions are minimised or, where possible, prevented and that staff are fully aware of how to support a child who may be having an allergic reaction.

Preventative Measures

- Our staff are made aware of the signs and symptoms of a possible allergic reaction in case of an unknown or first reaction in a child. These may include a rash or hives, nausea, stomach pain, diarrhea, itchy skin, runny eyes, shortness of breath, chest pain, swelling of the mouth or tongue, swelling to the airways to the lungs, wheezing and anaphylaxis
- We ask parents to share all information about allergic reactions and allergies on child's registration form and to inform staff of any allergies discovered after registration
- We share all information with all staff and keep an allergy list in the Pre-school room
- Where a child has a known allergy:
 - the Pre-school manager will carry out a full Allergy Risk Assessment Procedure with the parent prior to the child starting the Pre-school and shares this assessment with all staff
 - where a child may require specialist treatment, e.g. an EpiPen, then at least two members of staff working directly with the child and the Manager will receive specific medical training to be able to administer the treatment to each individual child.
- Seating will be monitored for children with allergies. Where deemed appropriate, staff will sit with children who have allergies and where age/stage appropriate staff will discuss food allergies and the potential risks
- Please note that Little Stars Pre-school is a nut free Pre-school and we request that parents do not bring in food containing, or which may contain nuts into the Pre-school.

Dealing with an Allergic Reaction

- If a child has an allergic reaction to food, a bee or wasp sting, plant etc. a first aid trained member of staff will act quickly and administer the appropriate treatment, where necessary. We will inform parents and record the information in the incident book and on the allergy register
- If an allergic reaction requires specialist treatment, e.g. an EpiPen, then the trained staff members should administer the treatment.
- Remain calm at all times. Children who witness an incident may well be affected by it and may need lots of cuddles and reassurance. Staff may also require additional support following the accident.

Transporting children to hospital

The Pre-school manager/staff member must:

- Call for an ambulance immediately if the allergic reaction is severe. DO NOT attempt to transport the sick child in your own vehicle
- Whilst waiting for the ambulance, contact the parent(s) and arrange to meet them at the hospital
- Arrange for the most appropriate member of staff to accompany the child, taking with them any relevant information such as registration forms, relevant medication sheets, medication and the child's comforter

Review / Version Control				
Review period - 3 years				
Version	Created	Reviewed	Initials	Changes
Allergies and Allergic Reactions Policy (v1.0)	04/2020			
		09/2021	DH AP	-
Allergies and Allergic Reactions Policy - Oct24 - v1.1	10/2024		DH AP	Changed template and version control. No changes to wording
		10/2025	DH AP	