

21. Anti-Allergy and Intolerance Policy

Legal Framework:

Children Act 1989, 2004, 2014

Data Protection Act 1998, 2010

Every Child Matters; Change for Children 2004

UN Convention on the Rights of the Child 1989, 2003

Human Rights Act 2000

EYFS Welfare Requirements: Safeguarding and promoting Children's Welfare, Documentation.

National Standards: Standard 8 - Food and Drink, Standard 12 – Working in Partnership with Parents.

Name of Responsible Person: All staff, Cooks, Lunchtime Assistants

Tigers Day Nurseries do everything possible to minimize the risk of a child being exposed to a substance to which he or she is allergic. Parents and carers must inform the setting, in writing, of any allergies or intolerances the child has been diagnosed with. This information is recorded on the child's records, along with details of symptoms to look out for, medication required and the emergency procedures to be followed. Parents are required to sign a form giving consent for medication to be given to their child.

A risk assessment is completed on the child and this is stored in their base room. In some cases the child will have a care plan in place which will outline procedures to follow in the case of a reaction.

There is an allergy register kept in the main office and this is updated as required by the Health and Safety Officer.

A record of all allergies is displayed in the kitchen and all staff are made aware of the food that individual children must avoid. At mealtimes food is served in such a way that makes it easy to identify any foodstuffs that a particular child must not eat. In some cases we may ask a parent to provide some safe foods for their child to have at nursery.

All staff are made aware of a child's allergy and where their medication is stored. The medication will be safely stored but readily accessible, clearly labeled with the child's name and instructions for use. Staff are trained to recognise the symptoms of an allergic reaction and to react accordingly.

Procedures

Administration of Medication (see Administration of Medication Policy)

Informing the Setting of a Child's allergies and/or intolerances

Use of Epipens/Anapens

Procedure for Informing the Setting of a Child's allergies and/or Intolerances

- If the allergy/intolerance is known when the child joins our setting, the information is recorded on the entry profile.
- If this develops at a later date the setting must be informed **in writing**.
- Any changes to the child's diet, allergy or intolerance must be recorded by the parent **in writing**.
- No action can be taken to introduce new food until this is received.
- In the case of a severe or life threatening allergy parents will need to see the cook personally to ensure we are given enough detailed information in order to care for the child effectively and safely.
- In some cases we may ask a parent to supply their own food to a child with a severe allergy.
- All children who have an allergy will be allocated a wristband to wear while they are at nursery with the parent's permission so all staff have a visual reminder of the child's needs at all times.

Procedure for use of Epipens/Anapens

- In cases of severe or life threatening allergies, some children will be prescribed an epipen or anapen by their G.P.
- The setting requests parents leave an epipen or anapen on the premises at all times.
- These are stored in the child's room in the locked first aid cabinet where the key is on a hook beside it.
- If the child suffers an allergic reaction they should first be given an antihistamine medication if this is prescribed for them. Parents should be notified by telephone at this point.
- Epipens/anapens will only be administered by staff who have been trained to do so.
- Only the child to whom the epipen/anapen belongs are to be given the medication.
- The epipen/anapen must be administered quickly.
- The child should be held closely and comforted by the person administering the medication.

- The dose should be given in the thickest part of the child's thigh. The pen should be held in place for a count of 10 seconds and then removed.
- The area should be massaged for 10 seconds.
- If possible the manager/Deputy should be informed before the injection is administered, but if the person administering feels there is not enough time they should go ahead with the injection first and inform the Manager/Deputy as soon as possible.
- Reactions to food can occur many hours after a food or material to which the child is allergic has been exposed to, so staff have to be vigilant.
- An ambulance must be called in any cases where an injection has been administered.
- The child's parents/carers must also be contacted.
- A full incident report must be completed and signed by all involved.
- The setting will ensure all staff working with a child who suffers from severe allergic reactions will have epipen/anapen training every three years.
- All staff qualified to Level 2 or Level 3 or above will always hold an up to date and current paediatric first aid qualification before they are able to start work with the children.