



Spinney Pre-School Managing Children with allergies/food intolerance or sick, Policy

Statement of Intent

We provide care for healthy children and promote health through identifying allergies and preventing contact with the allergenic substance and through preventing cross infection of viruses and bacterial infections.

Procedures for children with allergies

- When parents start their children at the setting they are asked if their child suffers from any known allergies. This is recorded on the Registration Form and Health and Development Form.
- If a child has an allergy or food intolerance we complete a risk assessment (see below) and an individual health care plan (See below)
- Parents or outside agencies train staff in how to administer special medication in the event of an allergic reaction.
- Generally, no nuts or nut products are used within the setting
- The child's name is added to the Dietary Requirements list.
- A copy of the risk assessment and health care plan is kept in the filing cabinet in the green folder and is shared with all staff.

Risk Assessment:

- the risk identified – the allergen (i.e. the substance, material or living creature the child is allergic to such as nuts, eggs, bee stings, cats etc.)
- the level of risk, taking into consideration the likelihood of the child coming into contact with the allergen
- control measures, such as prevention from contact with the allergen
- review measures

Individual Health care plan:

- the nature of the reaction e.g. anaphylactic shock reaction, including rash, reddening of skin, swelling, breathing problems etc.
- managing allergic reactions, medication used and method (e.g. Epipen)

Insurance requirements for children with allergies and disabilities

- The insurance will automatically include children with any disability or allergy but certain procedures must be strictly adhered to as set out below. For children suffering life threatening conditions, or requiring invasive treatments; written confirmation from your insurance provider must be obtained to extend the insurance.
- Lifesaving medication & invasive treatments - adrenaline injections (Epipens) for anaphylactic shock reactions (caused by allergies to nuts, eggs etc.) or invasive treatments such as rectal administration of Diazepam (for epilepsy).
- The setting must have:
 1. a letter from the child's GP/consultant stating the child's condition and what medication if any is to be administered;
 2. written consent from the parent or guardian allowing staff to administer medication; and
 3. proof of training in the administration of such medication by the child's GP, a district nurse, children's nurse specialist or a community paediatric nurse.

- If required, copies of all three letters relating to these children must first be sent to the Early Years Alliance Insurance Department for appraisal. Confirmation will then be issued in writing confirming that the insurance has been extended.

At all times the administration of medication must be compliant with the Welfare Requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage and follow procedures based on advice given in *Managing Medicines in Schools and Early Years Settings (DfES 2005)*

Oral Medication

Asthma inhalers are now regarded as "oral medication" by insurers and so documents do not need to be forwarded to your insurance provider.

- Oral medications must be prescribed by a GP or have manufacturer's instructions clearly written on them.
- Pre School must be provided with clear written instructions on how to administer such medication.
- All risk assessment procedures are adhered to for the correct storage and administration of the medication.
- Pre School must have the parents or guardians prior written consent. This consent must be kept on file. It is not necessary to forward copy documents to your insurance provider.
- ***SEND children requiring help with tubes to help them with everyday living e.g. breathing apparatus, to take nourishment, colostomy bags etc.***
- Prior written consent from the child's parent or guardian to give treatment and/or medication prescribed by the child's GP.
- All staff including the child's one-to-one to have the relevant medical training/experience, which may include those who have received appropriate instructions from parents or guardians, or who have qualifications.
- Copies of all letters relating to these children must first be sent to the Early Years Alliance Insurance Department for appraisal. Written confirmation that the insurance has been extended will be issued by return.

If you are unsure about any aspect, contact the Early Years Alliance Insurance Department on 020 7697 2585 or email insurance@eyalliance.org.uk

Procedures for children who are sick or infectious

- If children appear unwell during the day – have a raised temperature, sickness, diarrhoea or pains, particularly in the head or stomach – a member of staff will contact the parents and ask them to collect the child, or send a known carer to collect on their behalf.
- If a child has a temperature, they are kept cool by removing top clothing, sponging their heads with cool water and kept away from draughts.
- A child's temperature is taken and checked regularly, using a 'fever scan'/Thermometer kept in the first aid box or blue basket on top of the filing cabinet.
- In an emergency an ambulance is called and the parents are informed.
- Parents are advised to seek medical advice before returning them to the setting; the setting can refuse admittance to children who have a raised temperature, sickness and diarrhoea or a contagious infection or disease.
- Where children have been prescribed antibiotics for an infectious illness or complaint, parents are asked to keep them at home for 48 hours.
- **After diarrhoea/vomiting, Parent/Carers are asked to keep children home for 48 hours or until a firm stool is passed or vomiting ceased.** Some activities such as sand and water play and self-serve snack will be suspended for the duration of any outbreak.
- The setting has information about excludable diseases and exclusion times and contacts Public Health England (PHE) and Ofsted in the event of an outbreak.
- The Supervisor notifies the Chairperson if there is an outbreak of an infection (affects more than 3-4 children) and keeps a record of the numbers and duration of each event.
- If staff suspect that a child who falls ill whilst in their care is suffering from a serious disease that may have been contracted abroad such as Ebola, immediate medical assessment is required. The Supervisor or Deputy calls NHS111 and informs parents.

HIV/AIDS/Hepatitis procedure

HIV virus, like other viruses such as Hepatitis, (A, B and C), are spread through body fluids. Hygiene precautions for dealing with body fluids are the same for all children and adults.

- Single use vinyl gloves and aprons are worn when changing children's nappies, pants and clothing that are soiled with blood, urine, faeces or vomit. Protective rubber gloves are used for cleaning/sluicing clothing after changing.
- Soiled clothing is rinsed and bagged for parents to collect.
- Spills of blood, urine, faeces or vomit are cleared using mild disinfectant solution and mops; cloths used are disposed of with clinical waste.
- Tables and other furniture or toys affected by blood, urine, faeces or vomit are cleaned using a disinfectant.

Head lice and Threadworms

- Head lice and Threadworms are not an excludable condition, although in exceptional cases a parent may be asked to keep the child away until the infestation has cleared.
- On identifying cases of head lice and threadworms, all parents are informed and asked to treat their child and all the family appropriately using recommended treatments methods if they are found.

Paracetamol based medicines (e.g. Calpol)

The use of paracetamol-based medicine may not be agreed in all cases. Pre School cannot take bottles of non-prescription medicine from parents to hold on a 'just in case' basis, unless there is an immediate reason for doing so. Pre School do not normally keep such medicine on the premises as they are not allowed to 'prescribe'. The only time we will give paracetamol is if it is prescribed by a Doctor or a Practise Nurse.

Whilst the brand name Calpol is referenced, there are other products which are paracetamol or Ibuprofen based pain and fever relief such as Nurofen for children over 3 months.

Further guidance

Good Practice in Early Years Infection Control (Pre-school Learning Alliance 2009)

Medication Administration Record (Early Years Alliance 2019)

Guidance on infection control in schools and other childcare settings (Public Health Agency)

https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/sites/default/files/Guidance_on_infection_control_in%20schools_poster.pdf

This Policy was adopted at a meeting of the Pre-School held on (date) _____

Signed on behalf of the Pre-School _____