

Allergy and Anaphylactic Policy NMS Regulation Standard 5



Berriew Pre-School recognizes the potentially serious consequences of children with allergies. These allergies may include a condition known as anaphylaxis. Anaphylaxis is a severe, potentially life-threatening allergic reaction brought about by exposure to certain foods or other substances, such as nuts, dairy, seafood, wheat etc. Non-food items such as latex and bee stings can also bring about a life threatening reaction. Berriew Pre-School does not purpose to be, nor can it be deemed to be free of food items and non-food items that may lead to a severe allergic or anaphylactic reaction. We will make every reasonable effort to reduce the risk to children with severe allergies or anaphylaxis in accordance with this policy.

We live in a world that is contaminated with potential allergens and anaphylactic children; we must learn to avoid certain triggers. While the key responsibility lies with the anaphylactic individual and their family, in the case of a young anaphylactic child, the childcare community must also be aware. Creating an environment that reduces the risk to severely allergic or anaphylactic children requires the co-operation and understanding of all members of the setting, including staff, children and parents/carers.

1. Identification of children at risk:

- a) It is the responsibility of the parent/carer to inform the setting that their child has allergies or is anaphylactic or potentially anaphylactic.
- b) This must be listed on the registration form and they must verbally notify the manager.
- c) All staff shall be aware of these children
- d) A food allergen list with child's initials is kept in the kitchen area, stored on the inside of the kitchen cupboard that all staff are aware of.
- e) On the child's admission to the setting, the manager/leader will discuss the child's allergies with the parent/carer. The staff will receive a demonstration of EpiPen administration.

2. Availability and location of EpiPens:

- a) Parents of an anaphylactic child must provide an EpiPen to be left at the setting.
- b) EpiPens will be clearly labelled with the child's name, expiry date and specific allergy, and placed in their individual medical baskets clearlylabelled with name and photo.
- c) All staff are made aware of its location
- d) At least one member of staff will be trained to administer the EpiPen



- e) Children who are no longer allergic, or no longer require an Epipen, must provide a letter of explanation from their doctor or allergist so their name may be removed from the setting's allergy lists.
- f) It is the responsibility of the parent/carer to ensure that the Epipen is in date, and to provide a new Epipen when the current one has expired. Expiry dates will be checked before administration, following the procedure laid out in the Medication administration form.

3. Parent/Carer responsibilities

- a) The parent/carer must supply the child with an Epipen
- b) The parent/carer must sign the Permission to administer medication form.
- c) Any Epipens sent to the setting must be labelled by a registered pharmacist with the name of medication, the dose, the name and date of birth of child and date of expiry. This information will be recorded on the medical forms.

4. Symptoms of allergic reaction – this list is not exhaustive

Common

- sneezing and an itchy, runny or blocked nose (allergic rhinitis)
- itchy, red, watering eyes (conjunctivitis)
- wheezing, chest tightness, shortness of breath and a cough
- a raised, itchy, red rash (hives)
- swollen lips, tongue, eyes or face
- tummy pain, feeling sick, vomiting or diarrhoea
- dry, red and cracked skin

Severe

- swelling of the throat and mouth
- difficulty breathing
- light headedness
- confusion
- blue skin or lips
- collapsing and losing consciousness

5. Treatment procedure



- a) There will be no hesitation to use an EpiPen for a potentially life threatening allergic reaction, time of administration will be recorded on the record of medication given form.
- b) A staff member will stay with the affected child
- c) Another delegated member of staff will call 999 immediately
- d) The leader will inform the parent/carer immediately after the 999 call
- e) If the parent/carer is not available at any of the contact numbers, the leader will contact the emergency contacts as listed on the registration form
- f) Regardless of the degree of reaction or response to the EpiPen, the child will be taken to hospital, if the child's parent/carer is not able to get to the setting by the time the ambulance arrives – a member of staff will go with them.
- g) The member of staff will stay with the child until the parent/carer arrives

6. After the incident

- a) A member of staff will complete and file an incident form as soon after the incident as possible
- b) CSSIW must be informed of the incident – 0300 7900126

This **Allergy and anaphylactic** for Berriew Pre-school was passed for use

On:

By:

Position:

Date of planned review: