

Wildlings

Allergy Policy



Policy Statement

At Wildlings, we are aware that children and adults who are part of our setting can have allergies which may cause allergic reactions with serious consequences. We will follow these procedures to ensure allergic reactions are minimised or where possible prevented and staff are fully aware of how to support a child or adult who may be having an allergic reaction.

Procedures

All staff will undertake paediatric first aid training and be aware of the signs and symptoms of a possible allergic reaction. It may be the case that an unknown or first reaction occurs while at Wildlings and so staff must be vigilant with all in our care, not just those with known allergies. Signs or symptoms of an allergic reaction may include a rash or hives, nausea, stomach pain, diarrhoea, 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.

Information will be passed on by parents from the registration form regarding allergic reactions and allergies and must be shared with all staff at Wildlings.

An electronic allergy register will be kept within “documents” on the family app, on the child’s own Family health info section and displayed inside the cupboard door in the hall. A note of children with known allergies is also kept on the snack board in the hall kitchen.

The manager will agree with parents as to whether a full Health Care Plan is necessary for the management of the allergy. If so, this will be completed with the parent prior to the child starting at Wildlings. The information must then be shared with all staff.

All food prepared for a child with a specific allergy will be prepared in an area where there is no chance of contamination and served on equipment that has not been in contact with this specific food type, e.g. dairy/nuts/eggs.

Parents providing their child’s food must adhere to a list of allergies which will be in Wildlings healthy eating policy. This is available on Wildlings website and is shared at the start of each term on the Family app. They must not bring in any foods listed. This is to prevent children and adults encountering their allergens. If staff do notice any of these foods then they will be removed from the child’s lunch box and returned to the parents.

The manager and parents will work together to ensure a child with specific food allergies receives no food at Wildlings that may harm them.

If a child has an allergic reaction to food, a bee sting, plant etc. a first aid trained member of staff will act quickly and administer the appropriate treatment. Parents must be informed and it must be recorded as an incident on the Family app.

If specialist treatment is required, 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.

A sick child above all needs their family; therefore, every effort should be made to contact a family member as soon as possible in the event of an allergic reaction.

If the allergic reaction is severe a member of staff will call 999/111 and follow their guidance.

If hospital treatment is required, we will contact the child's emergency contact and arrange to meet them at the hospital.

A senior member of staff will accompany the child. Access to all relevant details can be found via the family app. Any relevant medication and emergency incident forms, medication and child's comforter if they have one should be gathered and taken with them.

Staff must remain calm always; children who witness an allergic reaction may well be affected by it and may need lots of reassurance.

All incidents will be recorded, shared and signed by parents at the earliest opportunity.

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