



Safeguarding children

1.16.1 Allergies and illness: policy and procedures

Policy statement

At School House Nurseries we strive to promote children's health by:

- Identifying allergies and preventing contact with allergenic substances.
- Preventing cross infection through viruses and bacterial infections.

Procedures for children with allergies

- When children start at the setting parents complete a Registration Form, which includes a question on the child's allergies.
- Additional information about any allergy is noted by parents on a separate Allergy Information Form.
- If a child has a severe allergy, a risk assessment form is completed by the Manager. This includes:
 - The allergen (i.e. the substance, material or living creature the child is allergic to).
 - The nature of the allergic reaction (e.g. anaphylactic shock reaction, including rash, reddening of skin, swelling, breathing problems etc).
 - What to do in the event of an allergic reaction (i.e. the medication used (e.g. Epipen) and how it is to be used).
 - Control measures (i.e. how the child can be prevented from contact with the allergen).
 - One copy of the risk assessment is kept with the child's Registration Form, in the office, and another copy is kept in the child's black folder in the classroom
 - The risk assessment will be reviewed regularly.
- Parents train staff in how to administer special medication in the event of an allergic reaction.
- No nuts or nut products are used within the setting.
- Parents are made aware of our no-nut policy so that nothing containing nuts is accidentally brought into nursery.



Infection control

- Please see the PDF from the Health Protection Agency on what to do in the event of your child becoming ill.
- A child with diarrhoea or vomiting **must** stay away from nursery for 48 hours from last episode of diarrhoea or vomiting.
- Please also note that School House Nurseries ask children with conjunctivitis to stay away from nursery for longer than the HPA stipulates, on a case-by-case basis, as it is a condition which can spread quickly unless caution is exercised. The exclusion period is usually 24 or 48 hours.

Oral medication

- Asthma inhalers are now regarded as “oral medication” by insurers and so documents do not need to be forwarded to the insurance provider.
- Oral medications must be prescribed by a GP.
- The nursery must be provided with clear written instructions on how to administer such medication.
- All risk assessment procedures must be adhered to in respect of the correct storage and administration of medication.
- Consent by parent or guardian is required for the administration of any medication.
- This consent must be kept on file in the child’s black folder.

Life-saving medication and invasive treatments

- This section covers adrenaline injections (Epipen) for anaphylactic shock reactions (caused by allergies to nuts, eggs etc) or invasive treatments such as rectal Diazepam (for epilepsy).
- The setting must have:
 - A letter from the child’s GP or consultant stating the child’s condition and what medication if any is to be administered in the event of a reaction.
 - Written consent from parent or guardian allowing staff to administer medication; and
 - 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.
 - Copies of this information may need to be sent to the Pre School Learning Alliance Insurance Department (our insurers) for confirmation of insurance cover.
 - A Key Person for special needs children – i.e. those children requiring help with tubes to help them with everyday living e.g. breathing apparatus, 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.

- A Key Person to have the relevant medical training /experience, which may include those who have received appropriate instructions from parents or guardians, or who have relevant training.
- Copies of all letters relating to these children must first be sent to the Pre School Learning Alliance Insurance Department for appraisal.
- Written confirmation that the insurance has been extended will be issued by return.
- Contact details for Pre School Learning Alliance Insurance Department are:
 - 020 7697 2585
 - membership@pre-school.org.uk.

Reporting of 'notifiable diseases'

- If a child or adult is diagnosed suffering from a notifiable disease under the Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations 1988, the GP will report this to the Health Protection Agency.
- When the setting becomes aware, or is formally informed of, the notifiable disease, the Manager will inform Ofsted and acts on any advice from the Health Protection Agency.

HIV/AIDS/Hepatitis procedure

- HIV virus, like Hepatitis (A, B and C) are spread through bodily fluids. Hygiene precautions for dealing with bodily fluids are the same for children and adults.
- Single-use vinyl gloves and aprons are worn when changing nappies, pants and clothing that are soiled with blood, urine, faeces or vomit.
- Protective gloves are used for cleaning/sludging clothing after changing.
- Soiled clothing is rinsed and either bagged for parents to collect or is bagged and laundered by the nursery.
- Spills of blood, urine, faeces or vomit are cleared using mild disinfectant solution and mops; cloths used are disposed of with clinical waste (i.e. with the nappies).
- Tables and other furniture, furnishings or toys affected by blood, urine, faeces or vomit are cleaned using a disinfectant.

Insurance requirement for children with allergies or disabilities

- Our insurance will automatically cover children with any disability or allergy but certain procedures must be strictly adhered to, as set out below.
- For children suffering life-threatening conditions, that might require invasive treatments, written confirmation from the insurance provider is obtained to extend the insurance.

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

This policy was updated and reviewed in:

Reviewed date	Name	Signature
September 2015	Stuart Watt	
May 2016	Stuart Watt	
August 2016	Stuart Watt	
September 2016	Stuart Watt	
April 2017	Stuart Watt	
April 2018	Lindy Baldwin	
August 2018	Lindy Baldwin	
April 2019	Lindy Baldwin	
May 2019	Stuart Watt	
January 2020	Stuart Watt	
January 2021	Stuart Watt	
January 2022	Stuart Watt	
March 2023	Stuart Watt	