

Woodentops Preschool

9- Allergies

General Statement

With 50% of children now suffering from allergies, the ability to understand allergic conditions and deal with sudden or severe symptoms, is fast becoming an essential part of childcare.

Aim: To provide an environment where allergy sufferers can thrive in our setting and participate in as many activities as possible.

To do this we will need support from parents/carers of all children in our care.

We cannot guarantee that our setting will always be an allergen-free environment.

Working with the child's parent/carer

At the beginning of a childcare relationship we will ask the parent/carer if their child suffers from any allergy.

As soon as the parent/carer notifies us of an allergy that their child has, we will work with them to develop a Child Allergy Plan – to include:

- Details of the allergy
- Details of reaction shown
- Procedure to be followed in an event of a reaction
- Prevention measures
- Details of any medication as well as follow-up care
- Where the medication will be kept
- What to do when we are out of the setting
- A risk assessment of the setting and regular outings
- When this Child Allergy Plan will be reviewed

If there is a possibility that the child needs medical care or the use of medical equipment then specialist input may be necessary, such as training sessions.

We will ensure all staff are aware of this policy and trained as appropriate.

Other children

It may be important for other children and their parents/carers to be aware that another child in the setting has an allergy and for them to adjust their behaviour due to this.

We may do this by:

- Informing parents/carers keeping to our confidentiality policy- no names
- Discussing the allergy with other children in an age-appropriate way
- Through reading story and non-fiction books appropriate for children
- We may ask for the parent/carer of the child with the allergy for support with this
- Encouraging no food sharing

Providing Snacks and cooking at Woodentops

- We check food labels and ingredients to minimise the risk of a child encountering a food they have an allergy to
- We are aware of the 14 'allergens' (Food Standards Agency) given during snack or when cooking.

This policy was reviewed on	
Signed on behalf of the preschool	
Date for review	