



Allergy & Anaphylaxis Management Policy

Nugent House School

Updated: November 2019

Review: September 2020

Nugent House School is committed to a whole school approach to the health care and management of those members of the school community suffering from specific allergies.

The school position is not to guarantee a completely allergen free environment, rather to minimize the risk of exposure, encourage self-responsibility and plan for an effective response to possible emergencies.

The school is committed to proactive risk allergy management through:

- The encouragement of self-responsibility and learned avoidance strategies amongst children suffering from allergies.
- Provision of staff awareness program on anaphylaxis
- The establishment and documentation of a comprehensive management plan where needed
- The establishment of specific risk exposure minimization strategies wherever required
- The implementation of the European Union Food Consumer Information Regulations 2014
- Close liaison with parents, carers, social workers and all concerned parties

The school recognises that a number of community members (pupils and staff) may suffer from potentially life threatening allergies to certain foods or toxins from insects. The school seeks parent/social worker and pupil support towards maintaining a minimised risk environment whilst also concentrating on ensuring effective medical response to potential anaphylactic episodes.

The intent of this policy is to minimise the risk of any child suffering allergy induced anaphylaxis whilst at school or attending any school related activity, and to ensure staff are properly prepared to manage such emergency situations should they arise.

The common causes of allergies relevant to this policy are: Nuts (in particular peanuts), Dairy products and eggs but the EU regulations also name cereals containing gluten (6 types) crustaceans, fish and products, soybeans and products, celery and products, sulphur dioxide, Lupin and products, molluscs and products also, wasps and bees and ants. The allergy to nuts is the most common high risk allergy and as such demands more rigorous controls.

The school is also aware of the stresses imposed upon parents, guardians, carers and teachers, with the potential for anaphylactic reaction in children for whom they have a responsibility. To this end, the provision of procedures and systems to manage such stress effectively is also an aim of this policy.

KEY STRATEGIES

General Aspects:

- The establishment of clear procedures and responsibilities to be followed by staff in meeting the needs of children with additional medical needs.
- The involvement of parents, social workers, staff and school nurse in establishing an individual medical care plan.
- Ensuring effective communication of individual child medical needs to all relevant staff.
- Ensuring first aid staff training includes awareness of triggers and first aid procedures to be followed in the event of an emergency.
- Staff preparing lunches will be requested to give careful thought to eliminating food that may be of risk to those members of staff and pupils who suffer from such allergies.

FOOD RELATED ASPECTS

With the implementation of the EU Food Consumer Information Regulations 2014 the ingredients of all menus must be clearly displayed emphasising the content of any of the 14 known allergies.

INSECT RELATED ASPECTS

- Diligent management of wasp, bee and ant nests on school grounds and proximity. This must include the effective system for staff reporting to management and a system of timely response to eradicating events.
- Education of staff and pupils to report any above normal presence of wasps, bees or ants in all areas of the school.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Parents, Carers and Social Workers:

- Providing on going and accurate and current medical information in writing to the school. This is to include the completion of the pupil's Education, Health and Care Plan. The school will seek updated information via a pupil's EHCP at the commencement of each calendar year, to which parents are required to respond. Furthermore, should a child develop a condition during a year, or have a change in condition the parents must advise the school of the fact, and details of the change be clarified accordingly in the individual health plan.

- Providing written advice from a doctor, which explains the child's allergy, defines the allergy triggers and reaction, and any required medication, including monitoring their use of an action plan with supporting photographic or other evidence.
- Providing Epi Pens and/or other necessary medication, including monitoring their use by dates and replacing medication if necessary.
- Providing appropriate foods to be consumed by the child if necessary.

Catering Staff are Responsible for:

- Using only authorised suppliers and being the controlling/point and contact for all purchases of food stuffs for school catering.
- Ensuring suppliers of all foods and catering suppliers are aware of the school minimisation policy.
- Ensuring supplies of food stuffs are allergen free or labelled 'may contain allergens'.
- Being aware of pupils and staff who have such food allergens.

EDUCATIONAL VISITS

- The teacher with responsibility for the trip will check with any food provider and ensure 'safe' food is provided, or that an effective control is in place to minimise risk of exposure.
- Where a pupil is prescribed an Epi Pen the teacher will ensure they or another supervising staff member is trained in the use of the Epi Pen, and capable of performing any possible required medical treatment as outlined in the pupil's EHCP.
- The teacher will ensure the pupil has his Epi Pen on the visit, and will be responsible for its security.
- If in doubt over the risk of a pupil with an allergy taking part on an education visit the teacher should seek advice from the doctor.

SCHOOL MANAGEMENT OF SEVERE ALLERGIES (ANAPHYLAXIS)

- All school staff, supply teachers, T.A.'s and Learning Mentors should be made aware of severe allergies and anaphylaxis and the emergency care procedures.
- Involved staff will know about the EHCP.
- The pupil is to carry one Epi Pen with another Epi Pen kept in a central, easily accessible place with an emergency care flow diagram.
- It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian/house staff/social worker to ensure that:
 - Medication is supplied to the school.

- The medication is replaced as necessary i.e. on change of dose or expiry date.
- All medication has the original pharmacy label attached stating the pupil's name, date of birth and dose.
- Consideration of a pupil's allergies is to be made with regard to classes to be attended, e.g. food preparation or use of certain materials in Science lessons

