Allergy Policy

At Pomfret Woodland Community Nursery we are aware that children may have or develop an allergy resulting in an allergic reaction. Our aims are to ensure allergic reactions are minimised or, where possible, prevented and that staff are fully aware of how to support a child who may be having an allergic reaction.

Our procedures

- Our staff are made aware of the signs and symptoms of a possible allergic reactions in case of an unknown or first reaction in a child. These 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 and these will be listed on each child's allergy care plan.
- We ask parents to share all information about allergic reactions and allergies on child's registration form and to fill out an allergy care plan to list further care needs and symptoms for staff (Which is then added to the Blossom app) and we continue to have ongoing discussions with parents about their child's health conditions and we ask for any changes to be put in writing before changes are made within nursery. For those more severe allergies that require an adrenaline autoinjector we ask for a **basic allergy action plan** to be completed which is to be signed by a medical professional. As part of the EYFS framework we are required to obtain information about special dietary requirements.
- We share all information with all staff and keep an allergy register up in each room for staff to access. Staff have access to each child's care plan via the blossom app to ensure everyone is aware of individual children's care allergies and symptoms.
- Where a child has a known allergy, the nursery will carry out a full Allergy Risk Assessment Procedure with the parent prior to the child starting the nursery and shares this assessment with all staff and caterers.
- All food prepared for a child with a specific allergy is 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. nuts. We have colour co-ordinated chopping boards and knifes to prepare snack.
- Staff are to complete allergy training annually to note differences in allergies and intolerances and that children can develop allergies at any times, especially during the introduction of solid foods. Staff are aware of what signs and symptoms to look for in these circumstances.
- The manager, nursery domestic, the outside catering supplier and parents will work together to ensure a child with specific food allergies receives no food at nursery that may harm them. This may include designing an appropriate menu or substituting specific meals on the current nursery menu. However, children are curious and can grab at other foods, so it must be made clear by the parent if this is a risk and measures can be put in place.
- Seating will be monitored for children with allergies; they will be seated at a designated allergy table – to remain in line with our inclusion policy if there is only one allergy/dietary they will be seated nearby their peers with their allergy buddy this is so conversations can still take place but limits the risk of food sharing. Pack lunch children will not be placed near allergy children. Children with a preference diet will have their own mat but sit with their peers. Each day a member of staff will be allocated by the most senior to manage allergies and intolerances in their room that day, they will serve, support and manage clear up to those

children only – Dependent on the number and severity of intolerances and allergies this may be split between two tables.

- We have designed personal placemats for those children with allergies, each attached with the child's photo, name and allergy/intolerance and preference type. We have plates, cutlery, cups, dishes, serving dishes and tongs just for our allergy children this helps to distinguish between each meal served and these are stored in their own container. The staff member who is allocated to the allergy table will wear a green apron and the table will be covered with a cloth.
- If a child has an allergic reaction to food, a bee or wasp sting, plant etc. a first aid trained member of staff will act quickly and administer the appropriate treatment, where necessary. We will inform parents and record the information in the incident book and on the allergy register if this is a new allergy.
- If an allergic reaction requires specialist treatment, 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.
- During lunch only the server will serve meals to the children that includes offering seconds, this it to prevent any cross-contamination. Staff are not to serve in their rooms but to ask the server for more where needed and to highlight which child it is needed for.
- When the server serves up the allergy and intolerance plates these are to be labelled clearly for the nominated allergy person that day, the label will be laminated and placed underneath the plate.
- When ordering foods in for our tea menu's we try to source all foods that are safe for all where this is not possible a dietary alternative will be provided.

Food Information Regulations 2014

From 13 December 2014, we will incorporate additional procedures in line with the Food Information Regulations 2014 (FIR).

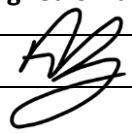
- We will display our weekly menus on the Parent Information Board and Facebook page.

Transporting children to hospital procedures

The nursery manager/staff member must:

- Call for an ambulance immediately if the allergic reaction is severe. DO NOT attempt to transport the sick child in your own vehicle
- Whilst waiting for the ambulance, contact the parent(s) and arrange to meet them at the hospital
- Arrange for the most appropriate member of staff to accompany the child, taking with them any relevant information such as registration forms, relevant medication sheets, medication and the child's comforter
- Redeploy staff if necessary to ensure there is adequate staff deployment to care for the remaining children. This may mean temporarily grouping the children together
- Inform a member of the management team immediately
- Remain calm at all times. Children who witness an incident may well be affected by it and may need lots of cuddles and reassurance. Staff may also require additional support following the accident.
- Where a serious incident occurs and a child requires hospital treatment, Ofsted will be informed.

This policy is updated at least annually in consultation with staff and parents and/or after a serious incident.

This policy was adopted on	Signed on behalf of the nursery	Date for review
14.09.2026		*14.09.2027*