

The Kinder Garden



Allergy Policy

Aim

It is the aim of this policy to ensure that The Kinder Garden effectively cares for, manages and supports children with allergies, minimises the risk of an allergic reactions occurring whilst the child/ren are in attendance; and that staff members are aware of how to care for children who have allergies within the service.

Legislative Requirements

Education and Care Services National Regulation 2011
Education and Care Services National Law Act 2010
National Quality Standards 2011

Who is affected by this policy?

Children
Families
Educators
Management

Implementation

This policy should be read in conjunction with The Kinder Garden Medical Conditions Policy; Action Plan for Allergic Reactions; Anaphylaxis Policy; Action Plan for Anaphylaxis – Anapen; Action Plan for Anaphylaxis – EpiPen; Administration of First Aid Policy; Anaphylaxis Guidelines for Early Childhood Education and Care Services; and Medical Conditions Policy.

The Approved Provider/Nominated Supervisor will:

- Identify children with known allergies during the enrolment process
- Provide families with a copy of the allergy policy upon enrolment
- Provide staff with a copy of the allergy policy
- Ensure all educators/staff are informed of the child/ren with a known allergy/s in their care
- Ensure families provide a copy of the Action Plan for Allergic Reactions prepared specifically for that child by their medical doctor to the service upon enrolment
- Ensure that a risk minimisation plan is developed in consultation with the child's parents/guardians for each enrolled child with a known allergy/s
- Ensure that a communication plan is developed for staff and parents/guardians to encourage ongoing communication between parents/guardians and staff regarding the management of the child's allergy/s.
- Ensure that at all times the children are being educated and cared for by the service, at least one educator/staff member who holds a current approved first aid qualification and has undertaken current approved anaphylaxis management training is in attendance.

Educators/Staff will:

- Ensure that they are aware of children in their care with a known allergy/s
- In consultation with the family, optimise the health and safety of each child through supervised management of the child's allergy/s
- Ensure to only administer prescribed medication marked clearly with the child's name unless in the case of a medical emergency when emergency treatment (such as the administration of an adrenaline auto-injector is required)
- Ensure that any prescribed allergy medication is administered in accordance with the child's Action Plan for Allergic Reactions/Allergy Management Plan
- Promptly communicate, to management and families, if they are concerned about a child's allergy/s limiting his/her ability to participate fully in all activities.

Families will:

- Inform educators/staff, either upon enrolment or on initial diagnosis, that their child has a known allergy/s.
- Provide all relevant information regarding the child's allergy/s via the Action Plan for Allergic Reactions prepared specifically for that child by their medical doctor.
- Notify the Educators/Staff, in writing, of any changes to the Action Plan for Allergic Reactions.
- Ensure that their child has adequate supply of appropriate medication/treatment clearly labelled with the child's name including relevant expiry dates.
- Communicate all relevant information and concerns to educators/staff as the need arises.
- NOT leave medications in your child's bag or locker. Give it directly to an educator/staff member on arrival and collect on departure.

Who should have an Action Plan for Allergic Reactions?

The ASCIA Action Plan for Allergic Reactions has been developed for individuals with a confirmed food, insect or medication allergy, who have not been prescribed an adrenaline auto-injector, as they are not thought to be at risk of anaphylaxis.

However, allergies to foods, insects or medications have the potential to result in severe allergic reactions (anaphylaxis) and the ASCIA Action Plan for Allergic Reactions provides guidance for carers on how to manage anaphylaxis if it occurs (see separate Anaphylaxis Policy; Action Plan for Anaphylaxis – Anapen; Action Plan for Anaphylaxis – EpiPen; Administration of First Aid Policy; Anaphylaxis Guidelines for Early Childhood Education and Care Services.

Resources

The ASCIA Action Plan for Anaphylaxis will be displayed in all areas at the service that are accessible to children, including outdoor areas.

The Approved Provider/Nominated Supervisor will ensure that this policy is maintained and implemented at all times.

Sources

- Australasian Society of Clinical Immunology and Allergy (ASCIA) website www.allergy.org.au Retrieved 6th March 2017
- ASCIA Action Plans for Allergic Reactions http://www.allergy.org.au/images/stories/anaphylaxis/2015/ASCIA_Action_Plan_Allergic_Reactions_2015.pdf Retrieved 6th March 2017
- ASCIA Action Plan for Anaphylaxis (poster) http://www.allergy.org.au/images/stories/anaphylaxis/2015/ASCIA_Action_Plan_Anaphylaxis_EpiPen_General_2015.pdf Retrieved 6th March 2017
- Anaphylaxis Guidelines for Early Childhood Education and Care Services
- Education and Care Services National Regulation 2011
- Education and Care Services National Law Act 2010
- Guide to the National Quality Standard 2011
- NSW Health www.health.nsw.gov.au Retrieved 6th March 2017

Review

The policy will be reviewed annually. Review will be conducted by management, employees, parents and any interested parties.

Reviewed: March 2017

Date for next review: March 2018