

Allergies and food intolerance

*****When a child starts at St Joseph's Pre-School Unit, parents are asked if their child has any known allergies or food intolerances. This information is recorded by the parent on the child's registration form*****

Procedures

Risk Management

- If a child attending St Joseph's Pre-School Unit has an allergy or food intolerance, a basic risk assessment form is completed by the child Key Person, the following information will be included:
 - the risk – the allergen (i.e., the substance, material or living creature the child is allergic to such as nuts, eggs, bee stings, cats etc.)
 - the level of risk, taking into consideration the likelihood of the child coming into contact with the allergen whilst in the Pre-School Unit.
 - control measures, such as prevention from contact with the allergen.
 - review measures and timescales.

Health care plan

At St Joseph's Pre-School Unit an individual health care plan will be completed when:

- the nature of the reaction will be severe e.g., anaphylactic shock.
- The reaction will require medication or medical treatment (e.g., EpiPen).

We will reduce the risk of possible reactions by:

- Adding the child's Dietary Requirements to a list displayed in the food preparation area.
- Sharing the risk assessments and health care plans for children with all staff and keeping a copy of both in the child's personal file.
- Parents are asked to demonstrate to staff how to administer any medication required by their child in the event of an allergic reaction.
- Requesting that no nuts or nut products come into the Pre-School Unit, in lunch boxes or snacks.
- Sharing allergies with the school kitchen staff where appropriate using an allergy form.
- Making parents aware when children in the Pre-School Unit have an allergy, so that no nut or nut products are accidentally brought in.
- Identifying when foods containing food allergens are on the snack and lunch menus.

Oral Medication

Oral medication can only be administered by staff at St Joseph's Pre-School Unit when:

- The medication is prescribed or has the manufacturer's instructions written on them.
- There are clear written instructions for administering the medication.
- Required risk assessment procedures are adhered to for the correct storage and administration of the medication.
- The parents provide prior written consent. Consent is kept on file.

For other life-saving medication and invasive treatments please also see the Pre-School Unit Procedures for the administration of medicine.