



Kadina Preschool

Managing Medical Conditions

Including Asthma, Allergies & Anaphylaxis



Government of South Australia
Department for Education

Kadina Preschool Centre is committed to ensuring that children in our centre are provided with the best possible care. This policy is for children with asthma, allergies, anaphylaxis or other medical conditions requiring care.

This policy is developed in accordance with Education and Care Services National Regulations. The regulations relating to this policy include:

- Regulation 90 – Medical Condition Policy
- Regulation 91 – Medical Conditions Policy to be provided to parents
- Regulation 94 – Authorisation requirements – Anaphylaxis or Asthma emergency
- Regulation 136 – First Aid Qualification
- 173 – Prescribed information to be displayed

With children who have an allergy or anaphylaxis reaction to a certain product, every step will be taken to ensure that children are not exposed to that allergen while in the centre.

Kadina Preschool Centre will take the following action to reduce this risk:

1. Obtain medical information

This information will be required from the parent on enrolment. The parent will need to provide the action plan for allergic reaction/anaphylaxis, asthma action plan or a specific medical condition action plan **which has been completed by a registered doctor or medical practitioner** and it must include the following information

- Clear identification of the child – photo must be present
- Documentation about the triggers
- Documentation of the first aid response including the medication required
- Identification and contact details of the doctor/medical practitioner who signed and dated the document.
- On enrolment parents will be asked to sign a consent form that will give the centre permission to display a photo of their child within the main Kindy room. This is to notify all staff, parents, and children using the room that there is a child with a medical condition, what their triggers/symptoms are and the steps that need to be taken to assist the child.
- Parents will be responsible for providing the action plan and medication and ensuring that the medication provided has a **current expiry date** (must be updated at least every 12 months).
- An Action Plan Process and Timeline with review dates will be included in the Medical Information folder. Staff will ensure that these are reviewed regularly and always at the time of transition. Eg – to school.
- **Caregivers will be reminded on an annual basis of this policy to ensure ongoing compliance.**
- On enrolment all parents, who have discussed and identified that their child has an allergy or anaphylaxis reaction, asthma or other medical condition, will be given a copy of this policy. This will ensure they are provided with all the necessary information on how the centre will address the issues and reduce the chances of their child being exposed to the triggers.

2. Education of educators

Recognition of the risk and understanding the steps that can be taken to minimise anaphylaxis by all those responsible for the care of children in the centre is the basis of prevention.

In accordance with the ACEQA guidelines there will be a staff member present at all times who has the recognised training in anaphylaxis and asthma as well as the approved First Aid training.

In accordance with regulation 173 - Kadina Preschool Centre will ensure that all staff with the approved qualification will be displayed on the poster on the kitchen cabinets with their names and qualifications clearly written.

3. Practical strategies to avoid exposure to known triggers

Avoidance of specific triggers is the basis of anaphylaxis prevention. Education of children, staff and parents on appropriate avoidance measures is important to minimise risks

When a child is enrolled who has an allergy to nuts, Kadina Preschool Centre will be a nut free centre for the duration of time that this child attends. A sign on the fridge will remind caregivers, with a notice that indicates if we currently have any children in the centre with anaphylaxis. Families will be reminded each term about the status of the nut policy.

For children with an allergen to other products, when this allergen is identified, steps will be taken to reduce the possibility of a child having an anaphylactic reaction.

When the allergen is environmental, e.g. bee stings – educators will have a bag that will contain the child's action plan and the Epipen/Anapen as well as a mobile phone.

The Preschool has an Epipen Jnr in the First Aid kit for emergencies.

Children with anaphylaxis will not be excluded from any activities that are undertaken within the centres environment, unless directed by the parent, or unless it is going to have a detrimental effect on the child's health.

4. Age appropriate education of children with severe allergies.

Kadina Preschool Centre recognises the importance of teaching children about allergies. The centre recognises that it has a responsibility to ensure a safe environment for all children in its care.

5. Food Policy Procedures

Kadina Preschool Centre will ensure that the following procedures take place:

- There will be no trading or sharing of food, food utensils or food containers
- Children with severe allergies will only eat food that is prepared and supplied by their family.
- Items for the children's use e.g. – bottles, cups etc, will be clearly labelled.
- The use of food in regard to cooking classes or science experiments will be restricted when a child with an allergen is present.
- Food preparation personnel will be instructed about the measures to prevent cross contamination during the handling, preparation and serving of food.

Refer to the Food Safety Policy and Healthy Eating and Nutrition Policy for more information on general safety measures undertaken within the centres environment.

6. Storage of medication

Each child's medication will be stored in an easily accessible, well marked container out of reach of children. Medication will be taken on all walking and other excursions. They will not be stored in the fridge (unless required on the packaging), as this is known to have an effect on the injector.

Exceptions to consent

Kadina Preschool Centre is committed to ensuring that all children in the centre are cared for in a manner that is safe to all users. Kadina Preschool Centre acknowledges that it must gain consent from the parent/guardian before it is permitted to give medication. Kadina Preschool Centre acknowledges that consent does not need to be obtained from the parent/guardian if it is deemed to be an emergency and is following first aid instructions from an Ambulance Officer. In this case the parent/guardian will be informed as soon as possible that emergency medication has been administered to their child. Kadina Preschool Centre will ensure that the medication record is completed for the parent to also complete and sign as soon as possible following this.

General

- Everyone is encouraged to wash their hands before and after eating
- Food is not given as a reward
- Children do not share or swap food

Food and nutrition incorporates education about food allergy and any practical food activities are planned with an assumption that some participants have a food-related allergy.

Policy review

- The Preschool will review the Managing Medical Conditions policy annually
- If any changes are identified and made to this policy, it will be done in conjunction with staff and Governing Council and any necessary training will be undertaken as a result.
- Families are encouraged to collaborate with the Preschool to review the policy
- Staff are essential in the policy review process and are encouraged to be actively involved.

Policy reviewed date: June 2022 Policy next due for review June 2023

DirectorSimone Shevchenko

Chairperson Narelle Miller

Policy information sourced from

1. ASCIA Guidelines for Prevention of food anaphylactic reactions in schools, Preschools and Child care.
2. Education and Care Services National Regulation 2012
3. Allergy and anaphylaxis aware – checklist for education and children's services.
4. Managing Anaphylaxis in child care settings
5. Australasian society of clinical immunology and allergy – www.allergy.org.au