

Allergy & Anaphylaxis Management Policy

Anaphylaxis is the most severe form of allergic reaction and is potentially life threatening. It must be treated as a medical emergency, requiring immediate treatment and urgent medical attention. Anaphylaxis is a generalised allergic reaction, which often involves more than one body system (e.g. skin, respiratory, gastro-intestinal and cardiovascular). A severe allergic reaction or anaphylaxis usually occurs within 20 minutes to 2 hours of exposure to the trigger and can rapidly become life threatening.

National Quality Framework Regulation 136 (1): Centre-based services - regulation 136(1)

The approved provider of a centre-based service must ensure that the following qualified people are **at all times in attendance** at any place children are being educated and cared for by the service and immediately available in an emergency:

- at least one staff member or one nominated supervisor of the service who holds a current approved first aid qualification
- at least one staff member or one nominated supervisor of the service who has undertaken current approved anaphylaxis management training
- at least one staff member or one nominated supervisor of the service who has undertaken current approved emergency asthma management training.

Services must have staff with current approved qualifications on duty at all times and immediately available in an emergency. One staff member may hold one or more of the qualifications.

NATIONAL QUALITY STANDARDS: Quality Area 2: Children's Health & Safety

Element 2.1.2 Effective illness and injury management and hygiene practises are promoted and implemented. .

This Policy should be read in conjunction with the site Healthy Eating Policy.

Managed by:	Director: Pam Stanley
Review Date:	Term 1, 2021
Presented to Staff:	Whole Centre Staff Meeting 2/3/2021
Presented to Gov. Council	Governing Council Meeting 13/5/21
Next Review Date:	Term 1, 2022

Date	Revision description
Date	Revision description
Term 1 2017	Changed format, action to be taken when nuts/products brought into Centre.
Term 1 2018	Inclusion of other banned foods
Term 1 & 2 2019	Change of format to line up with other centre policies, and change to new department template
Term 1 2020	Update NQF Element, addition in Point 6 - parents to sign form re 'no nuts' in centre
Term 1 2021	No changes

1. TITLE

Allergy and Anaphylaxis Management Policy

2. PURPOSE

The Purpose of the Allergy and Anaphylaxis Management Policy is to provide a safe environment for all children and take action to manage children who have been diagnosed with, or are at risk of, anaphylaxis.

3. SCOPE

This policy applies to all staff, children and visitors to the centre and all activities within the Kirton Point Children's Centre, even if the program is facilitated or funded by an external organisation. This also includes programs that are delivered off site.

4. OBJECTIVES

This policy aims to reduce the risk to children who have been diagnosed as at risk of anaphylaxis.

Staff will work closely with families to arrange worksite education and action plans to minimise the risk to the child, including prohibiting specified foods.

5. POLICY DETAIL

No nuts (including peanuts), nut-based products or foods in which nuts are an ingredient, or other prohibited foods (eg. eggs, seafood etc), are to be brought to the Children's Centre, including in lunch boxes or shared food.

Every child/student with anaphylaxis will have an Health Support Agreement, Safety and Risk Management Plan and an Anaphylaxis Action Plan, completed upon enrolment. Photographs of children/staff members with severe allergies will be displayed so that all staff are aware.

6. STAFF RESPONSIBILITIES

Staff will inform parents via the information pack and signs throughout the centre. Parent/caregiver will sign a statement to say they have been informed of the Centre's 'No Nut' policy on enrolment. Staff members will monitor children's lunchboxes at lunch time.

When nut products are brought in the Centre, staff will remove the food to a part of the centre inaccessible to children and supply an alternative food. Parents will be notified that the specific food is not permitted at the centre.

First aid will be administered by trained staff, where required, following the First Aid Guide for Anaphylaxis (severe allergy) as displayed throughout the Centre. At all times at least one staff member on site will be trained in responding in the treatment of anaphylaxis.

7. MONITORING, EVALUATION AND REVIEW

The Director will monitor the implementation of the policy and be responsible for ensuring all staff are aware of their responsibilities.

The Director and relevant program staff, will also be responsible for ensuring families and visiting staff are aware of and adhere to the policy at all times.

8. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Implementation of this policy should be supported and guided by the information provided on the Department for Education website:

<https://www.education.sa.gov.au/sites/g/files/net691/f/anaphylaxis-severe-allergies-procedure.pdf>