



## Allergy Aware Policy (No Nut Policy)

### Rationale

The kindergarten will notify all families, educators and staff about the potential risk of peanuts and other nut products.

### Aim

To provide a safe learning environment at the kindergarten and to raise awareness of the severity of 'anaphylactic' reactions that may be triggered through exposure to nuts and nut based products. Ensure all children who have been identified with an allergy that may cause an 'anaphylactic' reaction have their own EpiPen® or Anapen® or appropriate medication which is located in a labelled basket in the Medical Cupboard together with the Action Plan.

### Definition of Anaphylaxis

Anaphylaxis, or anaphylactic shock, is a systemic allergic reaction that can be fatal within minutes; either through swelling that shuts off the airway or through a dramatic drop in blood pressure.

## Implementation

- As part of the Enrolment Policy information must be provided by the Parent(s)/guardian(s) of children who have a known allergy to nuts including the reaction, symptoms and emergency procedures.
- Parent(s)/guardian(s) of children with allergies **MUST** complete an *Individual First Aid Plan and Health Support Plan*.
- Ensure that parent(s)/guardian(s) provide an EpiPen® or Anapen® or appropriate medication which is up to date.
- Information will be provided to the community in the *Parent Information Handbook* and on the *Information Board*.
- In the event that a child does bring a snack containing nuts, the food will be taken from the child and the parent(s)/guardian(s) will be informed. A substitute snack will be provided so that the child is not disadvantaged. All children are encouraged not to share food.
- *Nut Products* such as peanut butter, Nutella, muesli bars that have nuts or peanuts listed in the ingredients are **not allowed** in the kindergarten. This does not include the products that state in the ingredients/warning 'may contain traces of nuts' or 'this product is manufactured in facility where nut based products are also produced and therefore may contain traces of peanut/tree nuts'.
- Ensure that all educators are informed and have up to date training in how to recognise and respond to an anaphylactic reaction.
- As part of the Induction Procedure, children who are at risk of anaphylaxis will be identified to educators and staff and information will be provided regarding prevention and dealing with an emergency response.
- Educators are made aware of common triggers and foods that can cause allergic reactions:
  - Peanuts
  - Tree nuts (e.g. hazelnuts, cashews, almonds, pistachio nuts, pecans, walnuts, pinenuts, macadamias, chestnuts)
  - Egg
  - Cow's milk
  - Wheat
  - Soybean
  - Fish and shellfish
  - Insect stings and bites
  - Peanut Butter
  - Nutella
  - Museli Bars

## Review

This policy will be reviewed on a 3 yearly basis by the kindergarten staff and the Governing Council.

**Last reviewed: April 2018**

**Date for next review: April 2021** 2