



# Stretton Pre-School

## Anaphylaxis and Epi Pen

The Purpose of this policy is to provide information to help support children at risk of severe allergic reaction (anaphylaxis).

### What is Anaphylaxis?

Anaphylaxis is the term for a severe, possibly life-threatening, rapidly-occurring allergic reaction. Allergic reactions occur when an individual's immune system responds inappropriately to the presence of a food or substance that it wrongly perceives as a threat.

Severe allergic reactions among young children are uncommon, but when they do occur they must be treated rapidly. Common causes among children include peanuts, fish, milk and egg.

Less commonly, a child may be at risk of allergy to tree nut (e.g. almonds, walnuts, cashew nuts, brazil nuts), sesame, shellfish and other foods.

### Procedures:

1. We will ask for information about children's allergies before the child starts in our setting (children's registration form)
2. We will ask for a letter from the doctor or consultant detailing the specific diagnosis and treatment for the child if necessary
3. We will obtain written consent from the parent/carer for our staff to administer the Epi pen, or other medication, if necessary
4. Alongside the parents we will create a Health care plan and review at 3 month intervals (or sooner should it be needed)
5. We will undertake any specialist training before the child can start at the setting (e.g. Epi pen training)
6. All staff will be made aware of the allergies and they will be recorded on the allergy sheet in the kitchen - alongside a photo of the child
7. Where relevant we will comply with specific requirements set out in our insurance terms and conditions
8. We are a 'nut free' setting. Parent/carers and staff are advised not to include any item containing nuts in lunches. Children's lunch boxes are checked every day and any item containing nuts will be removed and returned to the parent/carer at the end of the session with a reminder note.

9. We provide written notification to our insurance provider of any child with a diagnosis, as set-out in the insurance policy terms and conditions. The child may not attend pre-school until this has been completed.

#### **Symptoms of Anaphylaxis:**

- Itching in the mouth
- Swelling of the face, throat or tongue
- Asthma
- Difficulty in talking or swallowing
- Hives anywhere on the body
- Generalised flushing of the skin
- Abdominal cramps and nausea
- Floppiness (drop in blood pressure)
- Collapse and unconsciousness

No child would necessarily experience all of the symptoms listed above, although more than one may well be present.

#### **Treatment:**

A child at risk of anaphylaxis will often be prescribed injectable adrenaline (Epi pen) and all relevant staff members will complete up to date training for the administration of the Epi pen.

We require an emergency kit (labelled) to be left on the premises, within date injectors (two of) and any other relevant prescribed medication - the emergency kit will be safety stored and accessible to all Early Years Staff.

The Epi pen and a trained member of staff will accompany the child on all outings and will be in their group and their responsibility.

#### **Data Protection**

In the implementation of this policy, Stretton Pre-School may process personal data and/or special category personal data collected in accordance with its GDPR and data protection policy. Data collected from the point at which this policy is invoked will only inform Stretton Pre-School for the benefit of implementing this policy. All data is held securely and accessed by, and disclosed to, individuals only for the purposes of this policy. Inappropriate access or disclosure of personal data constitutes a data breach and should be reported in accordance with Stretton Pre-School's GDPR and data protection policy immediately. It may also constitute a disciplinary offence, which will be dealt with under Stretton Pre-School's disciplinary procedure.

This policy was adopted by

Stretton Pre-School

On

4 October 2018

Date to be reviewed

Annually

Signed on behalf of the provider

Name of signatory

Emily Greenfield

Role of signatory

Chair