



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Anaphylaxis Policy

Agreed by the Governing Body on	Autumn 2018
Review Date	Autumn 2020
Review Schedule	Biennial
Person(s) Responsible	SLT and Provision & Achievement Committee

MISSION STATEMENT

In the St. Joseph's family, learning together through Jesus, we aim to develop to the fullest possible extent the whole person, socially, emotionally, creatively, academically, physically and spiritually.

GUIDANCE FOR ALL STAFF ON MANAGING CHILDREN AT RISK OF ANAPHYLAXIS AND DEALING WITH INCIDENTS OF SUSPECTED ANAPHYLAXIS

RATIONALE

- St Joseph's recognises that a number of children in the school family have allergies and may suffer an anaphylactic reaction if they eat or come into contact with that to which they are allergic. If this occurs the child is likely to need medical attention and, in an extreme situation, the condition may be life threatening. Currently the school has children on role with such allergies and these are pertaining to nuts or products containing nuts, fish, milk products. See Allergy Summary for details. A child at risk of anaphylaxis presents a challenge to any school. However, with sound precautionary measures and support from the staff and the doctor responsible, school life may continue as normal for all concerned. At St Joseph's, an individual health care plan for each child is developed based on consultation with the parents/carers and the clinical judgement of the patient's GP or consultant.
- The arrangements set out below are intended to assist children at risk of anaphylaxis, their parents/carers and the school in achieving the least possible disruption to their education and also to make appropriate provision for their medical requirements.

DETAILS

- The head teacher will arrange for the teachers and other staff in the school to be briefed about each child's condition and about their healthcare plan.
- The school staff will take all reasonable steps to ensure that these children do not eat any food items unless they have been prepared/approved by parents/carers.
- Parents will remind children regularly of the need to refuse any food items which might be offered to them by other pupils.
- In particular, parents/carers will provide a suitable mid-morning snack a suitable packed lunch suitable sweets to be considered as "treats", and to be kept by the class teacher.
- If there are any proposals which mean that a child may leave the school site for a trip, prior discussions will be held between the school and parents/carers in order to agree appropriate provision and safe handling of medication.
- Whenever the planned curriculum involves cookery or experimentation with food items, prior discussions will be held between the school and parents/carers to agree measures and suitable alternatives.

- The school will hold, under secure conditions, appropriate medication, clearly marked for use by designated school staff or qualified personnel and showing an expiry date.
- The parents/carers accept responsibility for maintaining appropriate up-to-date medication.

ALLERGIC REACTION

- In the event of a child known to suffer from allergic reactions showing any physical symptoms for which there is no alternative explanation, their condition will be immediately reported to the headteacher/senior teacher in charge.
- On receipt of such a report, the person in charge, if agreeing that their condition is a cause for concern, will instruct a staff member to contact in direct order of priority;

AMBULANCE - EMERGENCY SERVICES 999

PARENTS/CARERS

- Whilst awaiting medical help the head teacher and designated staff will assess the child's condition and administer the appropriate medication in line with perceived symptoms and following closely the guidance in their individual health care plan.
- The following procedure will be followed:
 - Child presenting with the following symptoms:
Bad tummy-ache ... itchiness ... irritated ... distressed ... tickly throat ...
CHILD WILL BE GIVEN PIRITON
 - Child presenting with more acute symptoms;
Wheeziness ... pale ... drowsy ... having difficulty breathing ... blue lips
... losing consciousness
CHILD WILL BE GIVEN THE EPIPEN ADRENALIN AUTO-INJECTION INTO THE OUTER SIDE OF THE THIGH, MIDWAY BETWEEN KNEE AND HIP.
- The administration of this medication is safe for the child and even if it is given through a misdiagnosis it will do him no harm.
- On the arrival of the qualified medical staff the teacher in charge will inform them of the medication given to the child. All medication will be handed to the medical person.
- After the incident a debriefing session will take place with all members of staff involved.

- Parents will replace any used medication.

TRANSFER OF MEDICAL SKILLS

- Volunteers from the school staff have undertaken to administer the medication in the unlikely event of a child having an allergic reaction.
- A training session was attended by all members of the school staff. The school nurse, explained in detail the symptoms of the anaphylactic reaction and the stages and procedures for the administration of medication.
- Further advice is available to the school staff at any point in the future where they feel the need for further assistance. The medical training will be repeated at the beginning of the next academic year.
- The city council provides a staff indemnity for any school staff who agree to administer medication to a child in school given the full agreement of parents and school.

AGREEMENT AND CONCLUSION

- A copy of the register of children with allergies will be held by the school and an individual healthcare plan agreed with the parents/carers. A copy will be sent to the Local Education Authority for information.
- Any necessary revisions will be the subject of further discussions between the school and the parents.
- On a termly basis, any changes to the allergy summary will be noted and circulated.

CONCLUSION

A child at risk of anaphylaxis presents a challenge to any school. However, with sound precautionary measures and support from the staff and the doctor responsible, school life may continue as normal for all concerned.

Further information about anaphylaxis and The Anaphylaxis Campaign can be obtained by calling The Anaphylaxis Campaign on 01252 542029 or visiting www.anaphylaxis.org.uk