Allergy Policy

* The majority of employees have completed paediatric first aid courses which covers a basic knowledge of dealing with allergic reactions, but they do not have in-depth knowledge.
* On registration, parents/carers are requested to advise the Nursery if they know if their child has any form of allergy.
* If a child does have an allergy, they are asked to complete an ***Allergic Reaction Form*** giving full details of symptoms, medication required and how they should be dealt with.

If a child has any known food allergy i.e. nuts, dairy products or eggs the parents **must** inform the Nursery and every effort will be made to ensure that the child is not given that food. However, in some cases of serious allergic reactions to a specific food, we advise that parents should prepare their own food for their child and to bring it into the nursery clearly labelled. This can then be heated up and served at mealtimes.

If there is a possibility that a child may develop a severe allergic reaction which can best be treated by other methods than medication, it is the duty of the parent to ensure that a member of the management team are fully aware as to how to deal with the symptoms. Members of staff will administer prescribed inhalers for asthmatic symptoms, but they are **not** qualified to administer any form of syringe type treatment.

The Nursery will only administer medication which has been prescribed by a doctor and when a ***Medicine Administration Form*** has been completed by parents permitting a member of staff to administer it. The nursery will hold, under secure conditions, appropriate medication showing an expiry date, clearly marked for use by designated members of staff.

***Medication will be stored***

* In the locked medication box located in the toddler corridor or pre-school corridor
* In the utility room, in the fridge in the medication box
* With the child’s name clearly labelled on any medication stored at the nursery.

In the event of a child showing any physical symptoms for which there is no obvious alternative explanation, the condition will be immediately reported to the Duty Manager and Deputies. On receipt of such a report, the person in charge, if agreeing that the child’s condition is a cause for concern, will contact in direct order of priority:

* **AMBULANCE** – Emergency Services 999
* **NEXT OF KIN** i.e. parent/carer/guardian/grandparent
* **CHILD’S DOCTOR**
* Whilst awaiting medical assistance, a senior member of staff will assess the child’s condition and administer the appropriate medication in line with the perceived symptoms and following closely the instructions given by the medical practitioner during the training session.

In the event of serious illness (accident or injury) and when a child leaves the nursery in an ambulance, the nursery will notify Ofsted as soon as possible and within 14 days of the incident.

**Employees of Steps Ahead Will Take Every Precaution And Do Everything That They Can Do To Best Assist A Child In The Case Of An Allergic Reaction But They Cannot Be Held Liable For Any Serious Complications Or Repercussions Should They Arise Following A Serious Allergic Reaction.**

For further information also See:

* Administration of Medicine Policy
* Sick Children Policy
* Accident Policy