

St Michael's Pre-school

Safeguarding and Welfare Requirement: Health

The provider must promote the good health of children attending the setting. They must have a procedure, discussed with parents and/or carers, for responding to children who are ill or infectious, take necessary steps to prevent the spread of infection, and take appropriate action if children are ill.

Promoting health and hygiene

1.16 Managing children with allergies, or who are sick or infectious

(Including reporting notifiable diseases)

Policy statement

We aim to provide care for healthy children through preventing cross infection of viruses and bacterial infections and promote health through identifying allergies and preventing contact with the allergenic trigger.

EYFS Key themes and commitments

A Unique Child	Positive Relationships	Enabling Environments	Learning and Development
1.2 Inclusive practice 1.4 Health and well-being	2.2 Parents as partners 2.4 Key person	3.2 Supporting every child	

Procedures for children with allergies

- When parents start their children at the setting they are asked if their child suffers from any known allergies. This is recorded on the medical information form.
- If a child has an allergy, a risk assessment is completed and recorded on a care plan to detail the following:
 - The allergen (i.e. the substance, material or living creature the child is allergic to such as nuts, eggs, bee stings, cats etc).
 - The nature of the allergic reactions e.g. anaphylactic shock reaction, including rash, reddening of skin, swelling, breathing problems etc.
 - What to do in case of allergic reactions, any medication used and how it is to be used (e.g. EpiPen).

- Control measures such as how the child can be prevented from contact with the allergen.
- Review date
- This care plan is kept in the child's personal file and details are displayed, with parental consent, where staff can see it.
- Parents/professionals train staff in how to administer special medication in the event of an allergic reaction.
- Generally, no nuts or nut products are used within the setting.
- Parents are made aware so that no nut or nut products are accidentally brought in, for example to a party.

Insurance requirements for children with allergies and disabilities

- If necessary, our insurance will include children with any disability or allergy
- The insurance will automatically include children with any disability or allergy but certain procedures must be strictly adhered to as set out below. For children suffering life threatening conditions, or requiring invasive treatments; written confirmation from your insurance provider must be obtained to extend the insurance.
- At all times the administration of medication must be compliant with the Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage

Oral Medication

Asthma inhalers are now regarded as "oral medication" by insurers and so documents do not need to be forwarded to your insurance provider.

- Oral medications must be prescribed by a GP or have manufacturer's instructions clearly written on them.
- The setting must be provided with clear written instructions on how to administer such medication.
- All risk assessment procedures need to be adhered to for the correct storage and administration of the medication.
- We must have the parents or guardians prior written consent. This consent must be kept on file. It is not necessary to forward copy documents to your insurance provider.

Life saving medication & invasive treatments

These include adrenaline injections (Epipens) for anaphylactic shock reactions (caused by allergies to nuts, eggs etc) or invasive treatments such as rectal administration of Diazepam (for epilepsy).

- The setting must have:
 - a letter from the child's GP/consultant stating the child's condition and what medication if any is to be administered;

- written consent from the parent or guardian allowing staff to administer medication; and
- proof of training in the administration of such medication by the child's GP, a district nurse, children's nurse specialist or a community paediatric nurse.
- Copies of all three documents relating to these children must first be sent to the Early Years Alliance Insurance Department for appraisal. Confirmation will then be issued in writing confirming that the insurance has been extended.
- Treatments, such as inhalers or Epipens are immediately accessible in an emergency.

Key person for special needs children requiring help with tubes to help them with everyday living e.g. breathing apparatus, to take nourishment, colostomy bags etc.

- Prior written consent from the child's parent or guardian to give treatment and/or medication prescribed by the child's GP.
- Key person to have the relevant medical training/experience, which may include those who have received appropriate instructions from parents or guardians, or who have qualifications.
- Copies of all letters relating to these children must first be sent to the Early Years Alliance Insurance Department for appraisal. Written confirmation that the insurance has been extended will be issued by return.

We would seek further information if we were unsure about any aspect of the above from the Pre-school Learning Alliance Insurance Department on 020 7697 2585 or email insurance@eyalliance.org.uk

Procedures for children who are sick or infectious

- If children appear unwell during the day, have a temperature, sickness, diarrhoea or pains, particularly in the head or stomach, the manager/key person calls the parents and asks them to collect the child, or send a known carer to collect on their behalf.
- If a child has a temperature, they are kept cool, by removing top clothing, sponging their heads with cool water, but kept away from draughts.
- Temperature may be taken using a thermometer.
- In extreme cases of emergency, the child should be taken to the hospital via ambulance and the parent informed.
- Parents may be asked to take their child to the doctor before returning them to the setting; the setting can refuse admittance to children who have a temperature, sickness and diarrhoea or a contagious infection or disease.
- Where children have been prescribed antibiotics, parents are asked to keep them at home until they are well enough to return to the setting.
- After diarrhoea, parents are asked to keep children home for 48 hours following the last episode.

- The pre-school has a list of excludable diseases and current exclusion times. The full list is obtainable from www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-protection-in-schools-and-other-childcare-facilities and includes common childhood illnesses such as measles.

Reporting of 'notifiable diseases'

- If a child or adult is diagnosed suffering from a notifiable disease under the Health Protection (Notification) Regulations 2010, the GP will report this to the Health Protection Agency.
- When the setting becomes aware, or is formally informed of the notifiable disease, the manager informs Ofsted and acts on any advice given by the Health Protection Agency.

HIV/AIDS/Hepatitis procedure

- HIV virus, like other viruses such as Hepatitis, (A, B and C) are spread through body fluids. Hygiene precautions for dealing with body fluids are the same for all children and adults.
- Single use vinyl gloves and aprons are worn when changing children's nappies, pants and clothing that are soiled with blood, urine, faeces or vomit.
- Protective rubber gloves are used for cleaning/slucing clothing after changing where applicable.
- Soiled clothing is bagged for parents to collect.
- Spills of blood, urine, faeces or vomit are cleared using mild disinfectant solution and mops; cloths used are double wrapped and disposed of appropriately.
- Tables and other furniture, furnishings or toys affected by blood, urine, faeces or vomit are cleaned using a disinfectant.

Covid procedure


- If a child appears to display symptoms of Covid during the day, a high temperature a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot, for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours, a loss or change to sense of smell or taste – this means they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal, the manager/designated adult calls the parents and asks them to collect their child immediately.
- Child displaying symptoms will be moved away from other children and will be attended to by one adult.
- Staff to wear PPE if they are attending to a child who is showing symptoms of Covid.
- If a child has a temperature, they are kept cool, by removing top clothing, sponging their heads with cool water, but kept away from draughts.
- Temperature may be taken using a thermometer.
- All resources that the child displaying symptoms has come into contact with will be removed and cleaned appropriately.
- Parents should follow updated government guidelines regarding testing and isolation rules.

Nits and head lice

- Nits and head lice are not an excludable condition, although in exceptional cases a parent may be asked to keep the child away until the infestation has cleared.
- On identifying cases of head lice, all parents are informed and asked to treat their child and all the family if they are found to have head lice.

Further guidance

- Managing Medicines in Schools and Early Years Settings (DfES 2005)
<http://publications.teachernet.gov.uk/eOrderingDownload/1448-2005PDF-EN-02.pdf>
- 1.15 Administering Medicines policy

This policy was adopted at a meeting of	St Michael's Pre-school
Held on	19/04/2021 (date)
Date to be reviewed	(date)
Signed on behalf of the management committee	
Name of signatory	Ellena Lloyd
Role of signatory (e.g. chair/owner)	Chair of the Management Committee

Other useful Early Years Alliance publications

- Good Practice in Early Years Infection Control (2009) –
- Medication Administration Record (2013)