

Nut & Allergy Policy

The Butterfly Preschool welcome all children with food allergies to be part of our community. We aim to maintain the Nursery as a nut-aware zone and all parents and carers are made aware of this when their child is admitted to the Nursery. The Nursery position is not to guarantee a completely allergen free environment as this would be impossible but rather to minimise the risk of exposure, encourage self-responsibility, and plan for an effective response to possible emergencies.

Policy Aims

- We aim to ensure that The Butterfly Preschool have considered the needs of food-allergic children and have developed appropriate procedures.
- We aim to work in partnership with the parents/carers of children with food allergy, building excellent levels of trust, communication and individualised care around their child's specific needs.
- We aim to do all we can to minimise the risk of any child experiencing food allergy-induced reactions.
- We aim to ensure that affected children are not unknowingly exposed to food allergens like nuts during preschool hours.
- We aim to extend these policies to all meals and food consumed in the Nursery and during any trips organised by the Preschool.
- We aim to ensure staff are properly prepared to manage emergency situations should they arise.
- We aim to consider the needs of food-allergic children when handling foods as part of the Preschool curriculum.
- We aim to educate children to eventually become more responsible for managing their own allergies is appropriate to their age and development.
- We aim to educate a child's peers to be aware of food allergy.

Parental responsibilities

- If parents are asked not to provide any food for an event or school trip etc. please ensure that it does not contain nuts.
- We require parents to provide detailed information about their child's allergy. This is to include past reactions, triggers and recommended treatments. We also require copies of letters from their doctor/allergy consultant.
- We require parents to provide an annual medical update at the beginning of each academic year or earlier if necessary.
- We require parents to register their child's EpiPen expiry date with the EpiPen text alert system accessed via the EpiPen website to act as a back up to the alerts. New EpiPens will need to be provided promptly.



Nut & Allergy Policy continued

Preschool Responsibilities

- All staff will be alerted to which children in the nursery have an identified food allergy. Each child's photograph (with parents' permission) will be displayed in the kitchen area (Clapham only), as well as in all classrooms (Clapham & Wimbledon) for reference. Relevant information can also be found in the school trip folders and on the preschool starter information form.
- All staff, including the lunch time supervisor, will work with the Preschool managers to ensure that they have the knowledge and skills to CARE for a child with a food allergy: Comprehending the basic medical facts about food allergies. Avoiding the Allergen. Recognising a Reaction. Enacting Emergency Care Plan. There is a template care plan in place for the care of all children with a mild-moderate food allergy that does not require the administration of an adrenaline auto-injector device (AAI) such as an EpiPen. Preschool Manager & Inform everyone where is kept.
- There is an individual health care plan (IHCP) in place for all children with a severe food allergy that may cause anaphylaxis and require the administration of an Automatic Adrenaline Injector (AAI). Inform everyone where is kept.
- The Preschool managers will ensure that staff have access to all relevant information about any child with a food allergy in the Nursery. Staff are encouraged to check the preschool new starter information form for any child in their care who may have a food allergy.
- All staff will be trained in first aid and be offered the opportunity to learn how to administer an AAI.
- Lunch time supervisors will do their best to ensure that foods prepared and served are allergen-free for each individual. It is understood that some foods are labelled as having been prepared or manufactured in an environment that may previously have been used for preparing products containing nuts.
- Staff will ensure that they are able to support children with food allergy by being able to help a child to identify the foods they should/should not eat. If they are not able to do so they will make sure they ask someone who can.
- Each child with a food allergy will be offered an alternative food choices.
- The Preschool manager will liaise with parents, lunch time supervisor with regard to any changes in a child's dietary needs and the school medical database updated accordingly.

