



Allergies and Allergic reactions

At Rising Stars, we are aware that children may have or develop an allergy resulting in an allergic reaction. Our aims are to ensure allergic reactions are minimised or, where possible, prevented and that staff are fully aware of how to support a child who may be having an allergic reaction. Allergies are recorded when the child first starts at the setting.

Our procedures

- Our staff are made aware of the signs and symptoms of a possible allergic reaction in case of an unknown or first reaction in a child.
- We ask parents to share all information about allergic reactions and allergies on an allergy questionnaire when they register with the setting.
- Where a child has a known allergy, the manager will carry out a full Allergy Risk Assessment Procedure with the parent prior to the child starting the setting and share this assessment with all staff.
- All food prepared for a child with a specific allergy is plated and labelled by the chef to notify all staff it is suitable for the child.
- The manager, all staff and parents will work together to ensure a child with specific food allergies receives no food at the nursery that may harm them. This may include designing an appropriate menu or substituting specific foods on the current menu.
- Seating will be monitored for children with allergies. Where deemed appropriate staff will sit with children who have allergies and where age/stage appropriate staff will discuss food allergies and the potential risks
- If a child has an allergic reaction to food, a bee or wasp sting, plant etc. a first-aid trained member of staff will act quickly and administer the appropriate treatment.
- This medication is placed in the rooms at the beginning of each day that the child is attending nursery and placed back in the office medication drawer at the end of each day. These medication boxes will be clearly labelled with the child's name and photograph and kept out of reach of all children. If you should ever administer emergency allergy medication you would need to complete an allergy reaction log form and monitor the child.
- Any children who require an auto-injector must provide two upon entry to the setting.

Transporting children to hospital procedures

The manager/staff member must:

- Call for an ambulance immediately if the allergic reaction is severe. DO NOT attempt to transport the child in your own vehicle.
- Whilst waiting for the ambulance, contact the parent(s) and arrange to meet them at the hospital.
- Arrange for the most appropriate member of staff to accompany the child taking with them any relevant information such as registration forms, their medication box with relevant medication sheets, medication and the child's comforter.
- Re-deploy staff if necessary, to ensure there is adequate staff deployment to care for the remaining children. This may mean temporarily grouping the children together.