

Allergies and Allergic Reactions

At Busikids we have a No Nut policy in the nursery, for foods brought in by staff for own consumption and for all foods/meals produced for the children

At Busikids 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.

When each child is registered the Information and Medical Form must be completed by the child's carer or parent to record any information relevant to all known allergies, including very specific details of the allergen, allergy, the symptoms and severity of the allergic reaction and the steps to be taken by staff in the event of a reaction occurring whilst at Busikids. A parent can also inform us of a dietary preference here too.

This information must include all documentation from the appropriate health and other professionals; for example, GP, dietician or other specialists.

The form includes a signed declaration by the parent/guardian that the form contains all information currently known to them regarding any allergies or intolerance suffered by their child and an undertaking to inform Busikids immediately, in writing, of any changes to treatment, intolerance or allergy.

All allergy information can always be found in the child's file and on Connect.

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. These may include a rash or hives, nausea, stomach pain, diarrhoea, itchy skin, runny eyes, shortness of breath, chest pain, swelling of the mouth or tongue, swelling to the airways to the lungs, wheezing and anaphylaxis
- We ask parents to share all information about allergic reactions and allergies on each child's Information and Medical form and to inform the nursery in writing of any allergies discovered after registration
- Dietary requirements are written in detail on the meal numbers board each day so that alternative meals can be prepared by the Nursery Cook.
- Red plates are provided for children with an allergy and all their meals are served on this colour plate, whether or not a child's requirements deem that they cannot have the food that the other children are having. This red plate will be covered and labelled with the child's name and their allergy and the cook will sign to say they have carried out all of the necessary checks. The senior member of staff in the room will receive a handover from the cook with details about each red plate of food. Once in the room, the senior member of staff will double check the food and then sign to say they have done so, and that they have given the correct plate of food to the correct child.
- The senior member of staff will sit with the children with red plates, all other food is to be served by a permanent member of staff only.
- Where a child has a known allergy, the nursery manager will carry out a full risk assessment and will share this assessment with all staff and the parents in the form of an allergy poster and allergy management plan.
- All food prepared for a child with a specific allergy is prepared in an area where there is no chance of contamination and served on equipment that has not been in contact with this specific food type.
- The manager, nursery cook and parents will work together to ensure a child with specific food allergies receives no food at nursery that may harm them. This may include designing an appropriate menu or substituting specific meals on the current nursery menu

- In an emergency situation there will be frozen meals suitable for the various allergies within the nursery.
- The cook and anyone who works in the kitchen will undertake Allergy Awareness training.
- Seating will be monitored for children with allergies, where age/stage appropriate staff will discuss food allergies and the potential risks
- All allergies are recorded on the Connect system. They are also displayed in each relevant playroom with full details and a recent picture of the child and also in the kitchen.
- Allergy awareness will always be a topic on the staff meeting agenda to ensure it is hi-lighted and revisited regularly. The cook attends staff meetings.
- To ensure an effective transition throughout the nursery, allergy information is a separate topic to be discussed at each transition.
- The cook and all staff will receive regular support and checks from the management team.
- 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, where necessary. We will inform parents and record the information as an incident
- If an allergic reaction requires specialist treatment, e.g. an EpiPen, then at least two members of staff working directly with the child and the manager will receive specific medical training to be able to administer the treatment to each individual child.

Food Information Regulations 2014

From 13 December 2014, we incorporate additional procedures in line with the Food Information Regulations 2014 (FIR).

- We will display our weekly menus on the Parent Information Board and website and will identify when the 14 allergens are used as ingredients in any of our dishes.

Transporting children to hospital procedures

The nursery manager/staff member must:

- Call for an ambulance immediately if the allergic reaction is severe. DO NOT attempt to transport the sick 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, relevant medication sheets, medication and the child's comforter.
- Redeploy staff if necessary, to ensure there is adequate staff deployment to care for the remaining children. This may mean temporarily grouping the children together
- Inform a member of the management team immediately
- Remain calm at all times. Children who witness an incident may well be affected by it and may need lots of cuddles and reassurance. Staff may also require additional support following the incident.

This policy was adopted on	Signed on behalf of the nursery	Date for review
01/06/21	Charlotte Angel	01/06/22