**6.8 Managing Children with Allergies at Pre-school**

* When children start at Cumnor Pre-school Nursery we ask their parents if their child suffers from any known allergies. This is recorded on the Registration Form.
* If a child has an allergy, we complete a risk assessment 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 measures.
* This risk assessment is kept in the child’s personal file and a copy is displayed where our staff can see it.
* A health care plan will also be completed.
* 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 in a lunch box.
* Specific risk assessments are put in place should a child attend with an egg allergy as this can affect cooking, packed lunches and use of egg boxes etc.

**Insurance requirements for children with allergies and disabilities**

* If necessary, our insurance will 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 our insurance provider must be obtained to extend the insurance.
* At all times we ensure that the administration of medication is 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 our insurance provider. Oral medications must be prescribed by a GP or have manufacturer’s instructions clearly written on them.
* We must be provided with clear written instructions on how to administer such medication.
* We adhere to all risk assessment procedures for the correct storage and administration of the medication.
* We must have the parents/carers prior written consent. This consent must be kept on file. It is not necessary to forward copies of documents to our insurance provider.
* Life-saving medication and 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).

* We 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/carer allowing our staff to administer medication; and
* proof of staff training in the administration of such medication
* We contact our Insurance Provider prior to the child attending the setting to ascertain what training/paperwork they require for that child’s particular treatment needs. Written confirmation that the insurance has been extended will be required by the setting before the child starts at Pre-school.
* Treatments, such as inhalers or Epipens are immediately accessible in an emergency – in First Aid cupboard in the kitchen
* Children requiring assistance with tubes to help them with everyday living e.g. breathing apparatus, to take nourishment, colostomy bags etc.:
* Prior written consent must be obtained from the child's parent/carer to give treatment and/or medication prescribed by the child's GP.
* Members of staff must have the relevant medical training/experience, which may include receiving appropriate instructions from parents/carer.
* 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.
* If we are unsure about any aspect, we contact the Early Years Alliance Insurance Department on 020 7697 2585 or email membership@pre-school.org.uk

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| This policy was adopted by | Cumnor Pre-school Nursery | *(name of provider)* |
| On | 21 June 2023 | *(date)* |
| Date to be reviewed | Term 1 - 2023 | *(date)* |
| Signed on behalf of the provider |  | |
| Name of signatory |  | |
| Role of signatory (e.g. chair, director or owner) | Chair | |