



Skool Is Out Ltd. Policies and Procedures

Allergies and Special Diets Policy



Health and Social Care Standards

Dignity and Respect
Compassion
Inclusion
Responsive Care & Support
Wellbeing



UNCRC Articles

Article 17: Ensure the child has access to information and material especially those aimed at the promotion of his or her...well-being and physical and mental health.
Article 19: Protection from all forms of negligence or abuse;
Article 24: right of the child to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health
Article 37: The right to be treated with humanity, respect and dignity;

Statement

At Skool Is Out we have a number of children with various allergies and food intolerances, some of which are severe. We have developed a specific allergy and special diet policy with the aim of minimising any risk of harm to children or staff arising from foods consumed on the premises. Information about Food Allergies is also included in our Food Hygiene and Snack Provision Policies. We have referred to guidance from [Allergy UK](#) as well as James Gillespie's Primary Schools' Allergy policy when devising this document.

Allergens

Skool Is Out appreciates that the after school club environment cannot be an "allergen free zone"; we are not able to control all foodstuffs being brought onto our club premises. We also believe that a "free from" environment can create a false sense of security and does not safely prepare children for many other environments where allergens may be present.

However, we have an obligation to ensure, as much as is reasonably practicable, that the after school club environment is safe for all children attending the club, and that any risks associated with allergens and allergic reactions are minimised, wherever possible.

Preventative Measures

We have a number of procedures that are implemented at our childcare venues to minimise risks of cross contamination or children suffering from allergic reactions:

- All of the snacks provided at Skool Is Out are nut free and are fully checked by staff before being given to children;
- Children with other allergies or food intolerances can be provided with appropriate "free from" snacks;
- We have rigorous procedures in place to minimise the risks of cross contamination and all food preparation, service and consumption areas are thoroughly cleaned using a two-stage detergent and disinfectant procedure;
- All families of children with allergies or food intolerances are required to complete a thorough care plan in advance of commencing childcare with us, outlining any allergies, specific conditions and steps to manage any potential allergic reactions;

- Children are requested to refrain from sharing foodstuffs when attending the after school club, and this will be monitored by staff, where possible;
- Staff are given appropriate training in allergy awareness and are instructed not to share snacks with children;
- Children will be given regular reminders at snack and lunch times about sharing foods and about allergy awareness;
- Parents/carers are required to supply appropriate allergy and anaphylaxis medication to Skool Is Out, if required;
- Medication is stored, maintained and checked as per the procedures outlined in our Administration of Medication Policy;
- All of our permanent staff are trained in First Aid and Anaphylaxis and in the administration of emergency medication;
- Clear information about children's allergies are displayed and all staff are aware of children's care plans, medication and the action that should be taken should any child suffer from an allergic reaction whilst in our care.

Ensuring the club environments are safe from allergens is the responsibility of all staff, children and service users, and we request the following support from families to minimise risks:

- We request that parents avoid providing nuts or products that have nuts listed as an ingredient in packed lunches or as snacks;
- Parents/carers should support us in reinforcing our policies regarding the sharing or swapping of foods;
- Ensuring that your child/ren are made aware of the risks associated with allergies;
- Ensuring that all children are educated in the potential dangers of allergens and that they are made acutely aware of these risks.

Please note that, while we cannot guarantee that the club can be an allergen free zone, we will remove any snacks or foodstuffs from the club environment if they are found to contain nuts or other significant allergens.

We request cooperation from our families in exercising consideration in the foodstuffs they provide to keep the club environment safe and there may be consequences should families continue to provide snacks or foodstuffs containing nuts or other significant allergens.

Managing an Allergic Reaction

Our staff are all trained in the administration of emergency medication and will follow instructions outlined on care plans in the event that any child suffers an allergic reaction at the club. In any instance whereby a child suffers from an allergic reaction, or emergency medication is administered, staff will record this on the appropriate form and a full Administration of Medication (Allergic Reaction) form will be completed and signed off by staff and parents.

Monitoring

We undertake regular reminders to all children and families about the above procedures and this policy will be reviewed regularly to ensure it is relevant and up-to-date and we will also implement any further guidance from the Care Inspectorate or Environmental Health as required.