



*Life in all its fullness at Compton C of E Primary School
Learning, Achieving and Flourishing Together.*

Allergies Policy

Compton C of E Primary School

WRITTEN	21.06.2023
APPROVED BY	The Governors
REVIEWED	Tuesday 4th July 2023
DATE OF NEXT REVIEW	July 2024

Allergies Policy

Compton C of E Primary School is committed to pupil safety and therefore has created this policy to reduce the risk of staff and children having allergy related events.

Compton C of E Primary school are aware that children who attend may suffer from food, bee/wasp sting, animal or nut allergies and believe that all allergies should be taken seriously and dealt with in a professional and appropriate way.

Compton Primary School's position is not to guarantee a completely allergen free environment but rather to minimise the risk of exposure, encourage self-responsibility, and plan for effective response to possible emergencies.

Aims

- * To reduce the likelihood of a pupil or member of staff with a known food allergy displaying a severe reaction to a specific food while in school.
- * To foster an understanding of and sense of responsibility for the specific needs of the individual members of the school community.
- * To create an awareness of the action to take should someone with a severe food allergy display its symptoms.
- * To ensure the school complies with the statutory guidance for supporting pupils with medical conditions

Definitions:

Allergy – A condition in which the body has an exaggerated response to a substance (e.g. food and drug) also known as hypersensitivity.

Allergen – A normally harmless substance that triggers an allergic reaction in the immune system of a susceptible person.

Anaphylaxis – Anaphylaxis, or anaphylactic shock, is a sudden, severe and potentially life-threatening allergic reaction to food, stings, bites, or medicines.

Epipen – Brand name for syringe style device containing the drug Adrenalin, which is ready for immediate inter-muscular administration.

Minimized Risk Environment- An environment where risk management practices (e.g. Risk assessment forms) have minimised the risk of (allergen) exposure.

Health Care Plan- A detailed document outlining an individual student's condition treatment, and action plan for location of Epipen.

AAI- Adrenaline Auto injector

Procedure

On entry to the school parents are required to inform the school of any known food allergies that their child has. This information is entered on the school's database from the enrolment form.

Parents must advise the school of the action that should be taken if their child develops the symptoms of an allergic reaction while in school. If a child has an allergy requiring an Epipen, or the risk assessment deems it necessary, an Individual Health Care Plan (see Template A: individual healthcare plan) must be completed and signed by the parents.

Parents of allergy children will be given a copy of this policy. Parents should update information if an allergy is diagnosed at any stage in their child's education.

All members of staff are given the names of children who have specific food allergies via medical Tracker. Photographs of pupils with severe food allergies are displayed in every classroom, the school staffroom and the canteen supervisor's office with the consent of the child's parents. These will include details of the child's allergy/condition and brief details as to how to proceed in the event of an incident.

The school will provide training to enable staff to recognise the symptoms of an allergic reaction and to respond appropriately as part of a first aid training course.

All parents are advised to ensure that their child does not bring nuts or foods containing nuts into school. Parents should send fruit or vegetable snacks or snacks that are store bought and have an ingredients list on the food label.

Parent role

In order to complete an Individual Health Care Plan Parents are responsible for providing, in writing, on-going accurate and current medical information to the school. Parents are to send a letter confirming and detailing the nature of the allergy; including:

- The allergen (the substance the child is allergic to)
- The nature of the allergic reaction (from rash, breathing problems to anaphylactic shock)
- What to do in case of allergic reaction, including any medication to be used and how it is to be used.
- Control measures – such as how the child can be prevented from getting into contact with the allergen.
- It is the responsibility of the Parent to provide the school with up-to-date medication /equipment clearly labelled in a suitable container with their child's photo displayed.
- Parents are also required to provide up-to-date emergency contact information.
- Snacks and lunches brought into school are provided by each child's Parent.
- It is their responsibility to ensure that the contents are safe for the child to consume.
- Parents should liaise with Staff about appropriateness of snacks and any food related activities (e.g. cooking)

Staff role

*Staff are responsible for familiarising themselves with the policy and to adhere to health & safety regulations regarding food and drink.

* If a child's Enrolment Form states that they have an allergy requiring an Epipen, then an Individual Health Care Plan is needed. It must be in place before the child starts attending sessions. Upon determining that a child attending school has a severe allergy, a meeting will be set up with the First Aid/Medical Co-ordinator as soon as possible. Where possible, other staff concerned will attend to update knowledge and awareness of the child's needs. When this is not possible, medical information will be supplied in accordance with school policy.

* All staff including students and supply staff that come into contact with the child will be made aware of what treatment/medication is required by the class teacher or the school office staff and where any medication is stored.

*Breakfast club staff will also be made aware and will have a member of staff suitably trained.

* Class teachers will discuss allergy information with all children in the class so that they are all aware of their class mates' allergies and the need to be vigilant.

*All staff are to promote hand washing before and after eating.

*Snack time biscuits and snacks are monitored by staff and should be peanut, nut free and other allergens depending on the children attending. All staff should know the procedures at snack and lunch time to ensure the safety of children with allergies. However, staff cannot guarantee that foods will not contain traces of nuts or other allergens.

*All tables are cleaned with an approved solution.

*Children are not permitted to share food.

*As part of the staff training, Epipen use and storage has been discussed.

* We may ask the parent for a list of food products and food derivatives the child must not come into contact with.

* Emergency medication should be easily accessible, especially at times of high risk.

*Staff should liaise with parents about snacks and any food-related activities e.g. cooking.

*Staff should adhere to the same no nut policy. The staff room should remain a nut free zone and be aware of the signs of allergic reactions in other staff.

Actions

In the event of a child suffering an allergic reaction:

*Check if the child has a known allergy and therefore an Individual Health Care Plan and follow instructions.

*We will delegate someone to contact the child's parents.

*If a child becomes distressed or symptoms become more serious telephone 999 if not already done so. Keep calm, make the child feel comfortable and give the child space.

* If medication is available, it will be administered as per training and in conjunction with the administering medications guidelines in the Individual Health Care Plan.

* If parents have not arrived by the time an ambulance arrives, a member of staff will accompany the child to hospital.

* An medication packaging (Epipens etc) will be passed to the ambulance crew, along with details of any other medication/treatment given before their arrival.

Role of other parents

- * Snacks and lunches brought to the school by other parents should be peanut and nut free.
- * The school will ensure that parents are regularly reminded.
- * Any treats provided for classes by parents should be discussed with the class teacher in advance where possible to ensure any children with allergies are protected. Shop bought treats with an ingredients list would be preferable in these instances. Any treats should be given to the class teacher directly. These will be handed out at the end of the day for parents to decide if their child is allowed to eat them.

School Kitchen

Compton provide in house school meals and have many suppliers. Parent's with allergy children should make an appointment with the kitchen manager to discuss nutritional needs and potential risks. We aim to offer an inclusive menu as far as is possible, taking into consideration safety management.