

Policy Statement

Links Childcare prioritises the health and wellbeing of the children in the service and pays particular attention to any child with severe allergies. This policy outlines the management of the special care required by such children and the role of parents in ensuring the safety of their child. This policy is available to all on www.linkschildcare.ie (<https://linkschildcare.ie/about-us/our-policies/>) or contact us at info@linkschildcare.ie.

Principle

This policy is underwritten by the (Early Years Services) Regulations 2016.

Procedures for Children with Allergies

When parents start their children at Links Childcare they are asked if their child suffers from any known allergies. This is recorded on the registration form.

If a child has an allergy, a risk assessment is completed by the parent and the crèche manager 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.
- This form is kept in the child’s personal file and a copy is displayed where staff can see it with parental permission.
- Parents train staff in how to administer special medication in the event of an allergic reaction.
- All Links crèches are ‘Nut Free Zones’.

Life Saving Medication and Invasive Treatments

In the case of, 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) the following applies;

The Manager 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 or guardian allowing staff to administer medication; and
- Proof of training in the administration of such medication by the child's GP, a district nurse, children’s’ nurse specialist or a community paediatric nurse.
- A copy of such proof may be required by our insurance provider for appraisal so that our insurance can be extended if necessary

Review

Management, in consultation with staff, monitors and reviews the effectiveness of this policy yearly or as required.

Review Dates:	2017	2018	2019	January 2020	October 2020	April 2023
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