

Section 4: Best Practice

Allergies and Allergic reactions

Policy statement

We provide care for healthy children and promote health through identifying allergies and preventing contact with allergenic substances. Our aim is to ensure allergic reactions are minimised or, wherever possible, prevented and that staff whilst at Stanmore Montessori are fully aware of how to support a child, or adult, who may be having an allergic reaction such as hives or life-threatening anaphylaxis.

Procedures for children with allergies

- When parents start their children at Stanmore Montessori they are asked if their child suffers from any known allergies. This is recorded on the Registration form and kept in the child's personal file. It is reviewed at every parents' meeting each term.
- If a child has an allergy, a Risk Assessment form is completed with the parents and this is shared with all the staff prior to the child starting at Stanmore Montessori. In addition an Allergy Care plan is put in place. This is to include:
 - child/staff members details
 - precautionary measures
 - list of allergens to avoid
 - description of usual symptoms
 - action to take place in event of an allergic reaction
 - details of any medications kept on site (including Epi-Pen)
- Information is shared with all staff and an allergy list is kept in the kitchen and in the school room.
- If an allergic reaction requires specialist treatment eg. Epi-Pen, then parents train at least two members of staff and the manager in how to administer special medication in the event of an allergic reaction
- Nuts or nut products are not allowed at Stanmore Montessori
- All parents are made aware of the 'nut free policy' so that no nut products are accidentally brought in - for example birthday celebrations.

Insurance requirements for children with allergies and disabilities

The insurance will automatically include children with any disability or allergy, but certain procedures must be strictly adhered to as set out in this Policy.