



Preschool and Daycare

<http://www.buildingblockspreschool.co.uk>

*'Where Play is a learning experience'*



## **Building Blocks Preschool and Daycare: Nut Awareness Policy**

### **Building Blocks preschool and daycare is a Nut “Aware” preschool**

\* **Purpose:** • To provide a safe learning environment for all members of Building Blocks preschool and Daycare.

To raise the awareness of all members of the community regarding severe allergies.

**Definition of Anaphylaxis:** Anaphylaxis, or anaphylactic shock, is a systemic allergic reaction that can be fatal within minutes; either through swelling that shuts off airways or through a dramatic drop in blood pressure.

\* This preschool acknowledges that due to food processing practices it is impractical to state that we have eliminated nuts or nut products entirely from an environment where there is food. Therefore we are a Nut “Aware” preschool.

\* We aim to minimise the risk of food-induced Anaphylaxis in preschools by:

- Obtaining medical information
- Education of carers
- Practical strategies to avoid exposure to known triggers
- Age appropriate education of children with severe food allergies.

**Management:** The Nut Aware Policy will be managed by:

- Parents and caregivers being encouraged NOT to send food to school with their child that contain nuts (especially peanuts). This includes peanut paste, Nutella, all nuts and cooking oil containing peanut oil, as well as foods containing nuts.
- Staff being informed and provided with training opportunities in the treatment of anaphylaxis as the need arises.
- Staff will be aware of specific children via photographs / information on display, on the medical records of children.
- Education, information and procedures being part of staff induction.
- No nut products to be included in food on special food days i.e. cakes, or in any

cooking activities at the preschool or on excursions.

- Staff/ volunteers/apprentices/ students being encouraged to wash hands before and after eating.
- Staff participate in training in understanding and dealing with Anaphylaxis (severe allergic reactions) as the need arises.

**Promotion: the policy will be promoted by:**

- Parents and caregivers being informed via the Policy Pamphlet distributed to all families.
- New families to the preschool community being informed via the Enrolment Information Package.

**EPIPENS AND MEDICATION**

The Staff being in charge of Epi-pens and medications (These treatments will be supplied by the parent/caregiver)

- Staff being required to take Epi-pens, medications and medical plans on any outings
- The staff will obtain specific medical information from the family at the time of enrolling a child with a “nut allergy” (i.e. an Anaphylaxis Action Plan being provided by a medical practitioner). This will include:
  - Clear photo of the child
  - Documentation of the allergic triggers
  - Documentation of the first aid response and prescribed medication
  - Identification and contact details of the doctor who has signed the action plan.
- The Anaphylaxis Action Plan will need to be reviewed when required by a practitioner.
- Parents of all children at Building Blocks (BB) preschool will be informed by a letter from the Manager or Director of BB, where there is a child with a severe “nut allergy”. Parents will be asked to:
  - Not send peanut butter sandwiches to preschool or other foods containing high levels of nut products.