

Allergy Awareness

Policy

Purpose of this policy:

- To provide a safe learning environment for all children at Little Gems Montessori Nursery, by lessening the possibility of allergic reactions to allergies.
- To raise awareness to all families in the Little Gems Montessori Nursery community regarding severe allergies.

Management of an allergy:

Where a parent of a child with a severe allergy to any substance has alerted Little Gems Montessori to this fact (backed by medical evidence/documentation), Little Gems Montessori will manage the situation in the following way:

Parental responsibility:

- Parent/Caregivers are to provide written details regarding the allergy information.
- Parent/Caregivers are to provide Little Gems Montessori with a health plan from a health practitioner and labelled medication.
- Parents/Caregivers are to update any information regarding the allergy, for example change of medication, other allergies that occur and ensure the child's medication is in date.

Community: -

- Families will be informed by letter NOT to send food to the nursery containing the relevant substance when there is a child on site with a severe allergy.
- Families will be informed of this policy when they enrol their children at Little Gems Montessori via the policy/information folder received on enrolment.

Staff

- Staff need to inform families if the allergy policy is needed to be in place.
- Staff will be made aware of children who have anaphylactic reactions, including nut and egg allergies.
- Staff will supervise children eating.
- Staff will participate in training to understand how to deal with Anaphylaxis if the need arises.
- Any of the children's cooking activities will comply with children's needs at the time.

Children

- Children are NOT to share food.
- Children will be encouraged to wash their hands before and after they eat.
- Children bringing food that contains the particular substance will be asked to take it home and other food will be supplied for them. This food will be kept up high away from all children until home time.

Little Gems Montessori acknowledges that due to food processing practices it is impractical to eliminate nuts or nut products entirely from an environment where there is food, thus we are a "Nut Aware" environment.