



Respect – Commitment – Success
Parch – Ymrywmiad – Llwyddiant

ANAPHYLAXIS POLICY

Document Version Control

Document	<i>Anaphylaxis Policy</i>
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Associated Policies and Documents	
Author	<i>Jen Howlett (Assistant Headteacher)</i>
Reviewer	<i>Senior Leadership team</i>
Consultation	<i>Senior Leadership Team</i>
Approval	<i>Development Committee of the Governing Body</i>
Date of approval	<i>September 2022</i>
Date of review	<i>This policy will be reviewed in accordance with any new legislation or guidance or in response to any quality assurance recommendations pertaining to the delivery of this policy and the overall safeguarding arrangements made.</i>
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Chair of Governors	
Headteacher	

Equality Impact Assessment

Name of Policy or Procedure	Anaphylaxis Policy
Date of review/approval	
Those involved in the assessment	Jen Howlett
Protected characteristics unlikely to be impacted by the policy/procedure and reasons for drawing these conclusions (by reference to each characteristic or group of characteristics)	
Protected characteristics which could be impacted by the policy/procedure i.e. there is the potential for having a negative differential impact – reasons for drawing these conclusions by reference to each characteristic	
How the policy as reviewed/approved takes account of each characteristic for which there could be a negative differential impact – by reference to each of those characteristics	
Recommended changes to mitigate against potential negative differential impacts	

The commentary highlighted in red above has been replicated in the policy to assist the reader in locating the commentary.

Introduction

Radyr Comprehensive School is committed to providing a secure learning environment for all, where our staff and students feel safe and are kept safe. This includes protecting our students and employees against any allergic reactions that may occur as a result of coming into contact with an allergen. In light of this, Radyr Comprehensive School aims to be a 'Nut-Free School'. Although we know a nut free environment cannot be guaranteed, this policy serves to set out all measures to reduce the risk to those children and adults who may suffer an anaphylactic reaction if exposed to nuts to which they are sensitive. The school aims to protect those who have allergies to nuts yet also help them to take responsibility as to what foods they can eat and to be aware of where they may be put at risk.

Aims

Our "Nut-Free School" means that the following items should not be brought into school:

- Packs of nuts
- Peanut butter
- Fruit and cereal bars that contain nuts
- Chocolate bars or sweet products that contain nuts
- Cakes or pastries made with nuts

Nuts will not be used in any of our food preparation, on site at our school. Our suppliers will be advised to provide us with nut-free products. However, we cannot guarantee freedom from nut traces.

Misleading nut-named foods

Despite having the word 'nut' in their name the following foods are not from the tree nut or peanut families so do not need to be avoided if you have a peanut allergy, unless you are also allergic to one of the following foods.

- Chestnut- is an edible product of a group of trees in the beech family
- Coconut - the fruit (seed) of a coconut palm tree
- Water chestnut - aquatic vegetable
- Nutmeg - seed of the nutmeg tree
- Butternut Squash - technically a fruit
- Pine nut - the edible seeds of pine trees

Anaphylaxis (also known as anaphylactic shock) is an allergic condition that can be severe and potentially fatal.

Anaphylaxis is your body's immune system reacting badly to a substance (an allergen), such as food, which it wrongly perceives as a threat. The whole body can be affected,

usually within minutes of contact with an allergen, although sometimes the reaction can happen hours later.

At Radyr Comprehensive School we will provide information to staff and students so that anaphylaxis can be recognised and addressed swiftly and appropriately.

Symptoms

The symptoms of anaphylaxis usually start between three and sixty minutes after contact with the allergen. Less commonly they can occur a few hours or even days after contact. An anaphylactic reaction may lead to feeling unwell or dizzy or may cause fainting due to a sudden drop in blood pressure. Narrowing of the airways can also occur at the same time, with or without the drop-in blood pressure. This can cause breathing difficulties and wheezing.

Other symptoms:

- Swollen eyes, lips, genitals, hands, feet and other areas (this is called angioedema)
- Itching
- Sore, red, itchy eyes
- Changes in heart rate
- A sudden feeling of extreme anxiety or apprehension
- Itchy skin or nettle-rash (hives)
- Unconsciousness due to very low blood pressure
- Abdominal cramps, vomiting or diarrhoea, or nausea and fever.

Anaphylaxis varies in severity. Sometimes it causes only mild itchiness and swelling, but in some people it can cause sudden death. If symptoms start soon after contact with the allergen and rapidly worsens, this indicates that the reaction is more severe.

Staff

Staff and volunteers must ensure they do not bring in or consume nut products in school and ensure they follow good hand washing and clean area practice.

Caution must be taken at certain times of year such as Easter and Christmas. If Staff distribute treats, care must be taken to ensure that no nuts are included in the product.

Particular products that are a cause for concern are: - Celebrations – Roses – Heroes – Quality Street. All product packaging must be checked for warnings directed at nut allergy sufferers and if the following or similar are displayed, the product must not be used in school. Packaging must be checked for information that indicates the product is unsuitable for school consumption:

- Not suitable for nut allergy sufferers;
- This product contains nuts;
- This product may contain traces nuts;

Staff will receive annual Epi Pen training so that they are aware and capable of addressing anaphylaxis confidently and swiftly.

Parents and Carers

Parents and carers must notify staff of any known or suspected allergies and provide all medical and necessary information. This will be added to the child's care plan and if necessary a meeting organised with the school nurse. Homemade snacks or food contributions must have a label detailing all ingredients present and the kitchen environment where the food was prepared must be allergen free. If you are unsure about a selection please speak to a staff member before bringing the food item into school. The school requests that parents and carers observe the anaphylaxis awareness policy and therefore do not include nuts, or any traces of nuts, in packed lunches.

Students

Students are aware and reminded about the good hygiene practice of washing hands before and after eating which helps to reduce the risk of secondary contamination.

Students will be made aware of the symptoms and risks through whole school assemblies. Students will receive annual EpiPen training.

Students with a nut allergy will be given a bronze star to attach to their bag or pencil case so carriers of EpiPens can be identified swiftly in an emergency.

Health Plans and Emergency Response

Healthcare plans for students with allergies and Allergy Lists are attached to the individuals SIMS profile. Medication is stored in OASIS, administered and documented in accordance with the student healthcare plan.

Trips and Visits

Staff running a trip or visit that includes an individual with an allergy must carry an Allergy Action Plan as part of the risk assessment. This action plan must also be included in the linked documents on EVOLVE.