



My Policy for dealing with Allergens

I will ensure that this information is accessible and kept up to date. When preparing any dish, I will think carefully, and read any contents labels, about the ingredients within the recipe to ensure no identified allergens are present. No children will be given foods where an allergen has been identified, and this would include the other minded children on that day to avoid any potential cross contamination or exposure to the allergen.

If I am making food for a child that has an allergy, I will follow good hygiene practices. As always, I will wash my hands prior to preparing any foods and I will also make sure that all work surfaces and equipment have been thoroughly cleaned. I am also aware and follow the guidance as set out in the document 'safer food, better business for childminders' from the Foods Standards Agency.

If I decide at any stage to issue a written menu of food offered I will ensure that the 14 allergens are included and shared with you. In other instances, this information will be offered verbally. It is also important that you, the parent, keep me informed if your child develops any allergies or food intolerance, whilst in my care.

Dealing with severe allergic reaction

I will ensure I know how to respond if I ever have to deal with a severe allergic reaction whilst in my care. I am aware that a child may be having an allergic reaction if they are displaying the following signs.

- having difficulty in breathing
- Lips and mouth are swollen
- if they collapse

Procedure

In the event of a child having an allergic reaction in my care, I will follow the procedure outlined below.

- Do not move the child, because this could make them worse.
- Call 999 immediately and describe what is happening; explain that you think the child may be having a serious allergic reaction or anaphylaxis (pronounced anna-fill-axis). It is important to mention the word anaphylaxis to ensure that the urgency of the situation is communicated, and that appropriate medication will be available.
- Ask the child (where appropriate); if they carry an adrenaline pen and if necessary help them retrieve it. If they are struggling to self-administer, then offer to assist them.
- Any child known to me to have an adrenaline pen, I will have received prior training to ensure that that is then administered correctly.

Lucy Madge

March 2018