



Promoting Health and Hygiene – Managing Children with Allergies, or Who are Sick or Infectious (Including Reporting Notifiable Diseases)

Policy Statement

At Whitsers we provide care for healthy children and promote health through identifying allergies and preventing contact with the allergenic substance and through preventing cross infection of viruses and bacterial infections.

Procedures for Children with Allergies

- When parents start their children at Whitsers they are asked if their child suffers from any known allergies. This is recorded on the registration form, and placed on the child's contact card.
- If a child has an allergy, a risk assessment form is completed to detail the following:
 - The allergen (i.e. the substance, material or living creature the child is allergic to such as nuts, eggs, bee stings, cats etc).
 - The nature of the allergic reactions e.g. anaphylactic shock reaction, including rash, reddening of skin, swelling, breathing problems etc.
 - What to do in case of allergic reactions, any medication used and how it is to be used (e.g. Epipen). See Promoting Health and Hygiene – Administering Medicine Procedure.
 - Control measures – such as how the child can be prevented from contact with the allergen.
- This form is kept in the child's personal file and all staff are made aware of it. The allergy and trigger is displayed with the person's name and photo for ease of identification. Parents train staff in how to administer special medication in the event of an allergic reaction.
- We try and keep Whitsers a nut free zone by sending out reminders to parents regularly.
- Parents are made aware so that no nut or nut products are accidentally brought in, for example to a party.

Insurance Requirements for Children with Allergies and Disabilities

Whitsers insurance will automatically include children with any disability or allergy but certain procedures must be strictly adhered to as set out below. For children suffering life threatening conditions, or requiring invasive treatments; we will ensure to send details to our insurance provider.

Oral Medication

Asthma inhalers are now regarded as "oral medication" by insurers.

Document Name	Revision Number	Revision
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Managing Children with Allergies or Who Are Sick or Infectious	4	21/05/2017
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- Oral medications must be prescribed by a GP or have manufacturer’s instructions clearly written on them.
- Whitsers must be provided with clear written instructions on how to administer such medication.
- All risk assessment procedures need to be adhered to for the correct storage and administration of the medication.
- Whitsers must have the parents or guardians prior written consent. This consent must be kept on file. It is not necessary for Whitsers to forward copy documents to their insurance provider.

Life-Saving Medication & Invasive Treatments

This may be Adrenaline injections (Epipens) for anaphylactic shock reactions (caused by allergies to nuts, eggs etc) or invasive treatments such as rectal administration of Diazepam (for epilepsy).

- Whitsers must have:
 - a letter from the child's GP/consultant stating the child's condition and what medication if any is to be administered;
 - written consent from the parent or guardian allowing staff to administer medication; and
 - proof of training in the administration of such medication by the child's GP, a district nurse, children’s’ nurse specialist or a community paediatric nurse.
- Copies of all three letters relating to these children must be sent to the Insurance Department for appraisal. Confirmation will then be issued in writing confirming that the insurance has been extended.

Special Needs Children - children requiring help with tubes to help them with everyday living e.g. breathing apparatus, to take nourishment, colostomy bags etc.

- Prior written consent from the child's parent or guardian to give treatment and/or medication prescribed by the child's GP.
- Staff to have the relevant medical training/experience, which may include those who have received appropriate instructions from parents or guardians, or who have qualifications.
- Copies of all letters relating to these children will first be sent to the Pre-school Learning Alliance Insurance Department for appraisal. Written confirmation that the insurance has been extended will be issued by return.

If Whitsers is unsure about any aspect, we will contact the insurers.

Procedures for Children Who Are Sick or Infectious

- If children appear unwell during the day – have a temperature, sickness, diarrhoea or pains, particularly in the head or stomach – a member of staff will call the parents and

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Reviewed – no



ask them to collect the child as soon as possible, or send a known carer to collect on their behalf.

- If a child has a temperature, they are kept cool, by removing top clothing, but kept away from draughts.
- Temperature is taken using a 'fever scan' kept in the First Aid box.
- In extreme cases of emergency an ambulance would be called and the child will be taken to the nearest hospital, accompanied by a member of staff and the parent informed.
- Whitsers can refuse admittance to children who have a temperature, sickness and diarrhoea or a contagious infection or disease.
- Where children have been prescribed antibiotics, parents are asked to keep them at home for 48 hours before returning to Whitsers.
- After diarrhoea and sickness, parents are asked to keep children home for 48 hours since they were last sick and until they have passed a formed stool if they have had diarrhoea.
- Whitsers has a list of excludable diseases and current exclusion times. This list is the Public Health England's document 'Guidance on Infection Control in Schools and Other Childcare Settings'. The document is obtainable from https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/353953/Guidance_on_infection_control_in_schools_11_Sept.pdf and includes common childhood illnesses.

Reporting of 'Notifiable Diseases'

- If a child or adult is diagnosed suffering from a notifiable disease under the Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations 1988, the GP will report this to the Health Protection Agency.
- When Whitsers becomes aware, or is formally informed of the notifiable disease, Ofsted will be informed and any advice given by the Health Protection Agency acted upon.

HIV/AIDS/Hepatitis Procedure

- HIV, like other viruses such as Hepatitis, (A, B and C) are spread through body fluids. Hygiene precautions for dealing with body fluids are the same for all children and adults.
- Single use disposable gloves and aprons are worn when changing children's nappies, pants and clothing that are soiled with blood, urine, faeces or vomit.
- Protective disposable gloves are used for cleaning/sludging clothing after changing.
- Soiled clothing is rinsed and bagged for parents to collect.
- Spills of blood, urine, faeces or vomit are cleared using Milton Fluid solution and mops; cloths used are disposed of properly.
- Tables and other furniture, furnishings or toys affected by blood, urine, faeces or vomit are cleaned using Milton Fluid.

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Nits and Head Lice

- Nits and head lice are not an excludable condition, although in exceptional cases a parent may be asked to keep the child away until the infestation has cleared.
- On identifying cases of head lice, all parents are informed and asked to treat their child and all the family if they are found to have head lice.
- We keep guidelines on detection and treatment of nits and head lice in the parent information booklet.

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