



Barmera Kindergarten

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National Quality Standard – 6.1

Regulation: 90,91,94,136

Related Key Regulations: 160,161,162,177

Anaphylaxis and Allergy Policy

Barmera Kindergarten is committed to ensuring that children enrolled are provided with the best possible care.

With children that have an allergy or anaphylaxis reaction to a certain product, every step will be taken to ensure that children are not exposed to that allergen while in the centre (if possible).

Barmera Kindergarten will take the following actions to reduce this risk:

1. Obtain medical information

This information will be required from the parent on enrolment. The family will need to provide the ASCIA (Australasian Society of Clinical Immunology and Allergy) action plan for allergic reaction/anaphylaxis, which has been completed by a registered doctor or medical practitioner and it will include the following information

- Clear identification of the child – photo must be present
 - Documentation about the allergic triggers
 - Documentation of the first aid response including the medication required
 - Identification and contact details of the doctor/medical practitioner that signed the document.
- Family will be responsible for providing medication and ensuring it is within its current expiry date and resupplying as necessary.
 - In conjunction with staff and the family a Health Support Agreement for Education and Care and a Safety and Risk Management Plan will be completed.
 - On enrolment, all families who have discussed and identified that their child has an allergy or anaphylaxis reaction, will be given a copy of this policy to ensure they are provided with all the necessary information on how the centre will address the issues, and reduce the chances of their child being exposed to the allergen.

2. Education of educators

Recognition of the risk and understanding of the steps that can be taken to minimise anaphylaxis by all those responsible for the care of children in the centre, are the basis of prevention.

In accordance with regulation 136 – Barmera Kindergarten is committed to ensure that staff hold a current approved anaphylaxis management certificate. Ideally education of all staff on this topic would be the goal and this will be updated every 3 years in accordance with the ACEQA guidelines.

In accordance with regulation 172- If a child who has been diagnosed as at risk of anaphylaxis is enrolled, the centre will ensure this information is displayed.

Children with allergies or anaphylaxis will have their photo, the details of their medical condition and treatment displayed on the kitchen cupboards for easy access for all staff.



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3. Practical strategies to avoid exposure to know triggers

Avoidance of specific triggers is the basis of anaphylaxis and allergy prevention. Appropriate avoidance measures impact critically on education of children, staff and parents.

For children that have an allergy to products, when this allergen is identified, it will be removed or have restricted access in the centre's environment. E.g. – milk avoided during cooking experiences if a child has a milk allergy.

When the allergen is environmental, (e.g. bee stings) and educators are aware of the allergen being present they will move the child to another learning space.

Children with an anaphylaxis reaction will not be excluded from any activities that are undertaken within the centres environment, unless directed by the parent, or unless it is going to have a detrimental effect on the child's health.

When a child is enrolled who has a severe food allergy, all families will be informed with the intent to avoid exposure to the allergy.

4. Age appropriate education of children with severe allergies.

Barmera Kindergarten recognises the importance of parents having the responsibility of teaching children about allergies, the centre recognises that it has a responsibility to ensure a safe environment for all children in care.

5. Food Policy measures

Barmera Kindergarten will ensure that the following measures take place:

- There will be no trading or sharing of food, food utensils or food containers (except on site shared lunch or fruit platters).
- Items for the children's use e.g. – water bottles, will be clearly labelled,
- The use of food in regard to cooking and other learning experiences will be considered when a child with an allergy is present,
- Food preparation personnel will be instructed about the measures to prevent cross contamination during the handling, preparation and serving of food.

Refer to the Food Safety Policy and Healthy Eating and Nutrition Policy for more information on general safety measures undertaken within the centres environment.

6. Storage of medication

To ensure the safety of the child, the medication will be stored under staff control as per the instructions on the medication dispenser.

Exceptions to consent

Barmera Kindergarten acknowledges that in an emergency consent does not need to be obtained from the parent/guardian. In this case the parent/guardian will be informed as soon as possible that emergency medication has been administered to their child. Barmera Kindergarten will ensure that the medication record is completed for the parent to fill out and sign as soon as possible after the administration of medication has taken place.