

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY BELFAST

Childcare Services

Allergy Policy

Childcare Services at Queen's aim, at all times, to ensure the health, safety and wellbeing of the children in our care. Furthermore, Childcare staff recognise the importance of allergy awareness as detailed in the Food Information Regulations (2014) and the Safe Catering Guide issued by the Food Standards Agency in Northern Ireland and the Food Safety Authority of Ireland.

All parents will be asked at time of registration, and details noted within the registration document, about any allergies, intolerances, or other medical ailments their child has.

Where a child has an allergy/intolerance, parents must provide full written details of this including prohibited foods, the type of reaction that can occur and any medication necessary in the event of a reaction (reference Management of Medicines Policy).

It is the responsibility of parents to ensure Childcare staff are up-to-date with any allergies/intolerances a child may have or medication they need to receive.

Any child with an allergy/intolerance will be assessed on an individual basis and, if necessary, an Allergy Action Plan will be put into place. Based on the child's Allergy Action Plan, Childcare staff will receive training which will include preventing exposure to food(s) that trigger an allergic reaction, recognising the symptoms and treating a reaction. This will be done in conjunction with parents, relevant health professionals and Queen's University Health Department.

Where reasonably practicable, separate meals and snacks will be provided for children with allergies/intolerances. A file will be kept containing all ingredients used during the cooking process and any allergens within these ingredients will be highlighted. In certain circumstances, based on the Allergy Action Plan, parents may be asked to provide meals and snacks for their child.

It is at the discretion of management whether or not Childcare Services at Queen's can accommodate a child with an allergy.