



Playgroup Policy Medical Conditions

Purpose of this requirement

To ensure that Mapoon playgroup minimises the potential risk that may arise from any medical condition, including anaphylaxis that could adversely affect the health, safety and wellbeing of any person attending or employed at Mapoon playgroup.

Definitions

Anapen®: An adrenaline auto-injection device containing a single dose of adrenaline.

Anaphylaxis:

- The most severe form of an allergic reaction, which has the potential to be life threatening.

Adrenaline auto-injection device:

- A device containing a single dose of adrenaline, delivered by a spring-activated device which is concealed until administered.

At-risk:

- Those whose medical condition has been diagnosed by a Medical Practitioner and who are at risk of the condition affecting them whilst they are at a Mapoon playgroup site or facility.

Epipen®:

This is one form of an auto-injection device containing a single dose of adrenaline. Two strengths are available, an Epipen® and an Epipen Jnr®, which are prescribed according to the child's weight.

Medical Emergency:

- An illness or injury that immediately jeopardises the health, safety and wellbeing of a person, i.e. a critical incident.

Oral Medication:

- The administration of a tablet, a capsule, an elixir or a solution or other liquid form of medication by mouth.

Severe Allergy:

- Any allergy which results in an illness, respiratory complications or anaphylaxis.

Subcutaneous:

- A subcutaneous injection is an injection in which a needle is inserted just under the skin.

Trigger/Event:

- An agent, substance or situation that initiates or stimulates an action.

Applicability of this requirement:

- Children at risk of a medical condition that has the potential to escalate to a medical emergency will be identified upon before attendance.
- A Medical Management Plan must be provided for any child that will be attending Mapoon playgroup with a specific health care need, allergy or relevant medical condition, which is to be followed in the event of an incident relating to the child's condition. The Medical Management Plan will also include a risk minimisation plan and communication plan.
 - The risk minimisation plan will outline the agreed risk minimisation strategies that will be adopted by playgroup staff and parents to ensure the best practice prevention and management of a child identified at risk of a medical condition that has the potential to escalate to a medical emergency. The risk minimisation plan will be developed in consultation with the family for children enrolled at the centre.
 - The communication plan will ensure that all playgroup staff (including contractors, volunteers, students and parents) are informed about the medical management requirement, medical management plan and risk minimisation plan for the child. The plan will also ensure that all centre staff (including contractors, volunteers and students) can identify the child and the location of their medication. Staff must complete the Medical Management Plan.
 - The communication plan will ensure changes can be made to the Medical Management Plan and risk minimisation plan for the child in writing at any time.
 - The Medical Management Plan must be reviewed at least annually.
- All playgroup staff (including contractors, volunteers and students), parents and guardians are provided this Medical Conditions Requirement to inform them about how the centre manages the risk of medical conditions that have the potential to escalate to a medical emergency, for at risk children enrolled at the centre.
- The agreed risk minimisation strategies will be implemented to ensure the risk of exposure to known allergens, which may trigger an allergic reaction or response for a child identified as at risk of anaphylaxis, is minimised to as low as reasonably practicable.
- Best practice training, information and guidance will be provided to staff and families to raise awareness of medical conditions that present a risk to the health, safety and wellbeing of any child attending Mapoon playgroup.
- A child with a specific health care need, allergy or relevant medical condition does not attend the service without medication prescribed by their medical practitioner in relation to the specific health care need, allergy or relevant medical condition. All reasonable action will be taken to call the child's emergency contact to notify of an expired or missing medication and the need for this to be replaced immediately if the child is in attendance.
- All centre staff have adequate knowledge of allergies, anaphylaxis and emergency procedures to ensure the immediate response in the event of a person experiencing anaphylaxis or allergic reaction by initiating appropriate treatment, including administering an adrenaline auto-injection device (i.e. EpiPen® or Anapen®).
- At least one staff member on duty must have current approved first aid, asthma and anaphylaxis management training and immediate first aid treatment and the administration of medication will be provided in the event of a child experiencing a medical condition that escalates to a medical emergency.
- Children must not self-administer medication whilst in attendance at Mapoon playgroup.

Responsibilities

This requirement is to be implemented by: All Mapoon playgroup Staff.