

Elf School Plan for a Child with Allergies

Ensuring Safety, Inclusion, and Wellness in Early Childhood Education

Introduction

When planning preschool activities and routines for a child with allergies, it is vital to create an environment that is safe, inclusive, and supportive. Allergies can range from mild to severe and may include reactions to food, environmental factors (such as pollen, dust, or animal dander), or other substances. This preschool plan outlines key strategies to accommodate and protect children with allergies while allowing them to fully participate in educational and social experiences.

1. Gathering Information and Communication

- Obtain a detailed allergy profile from parents or guardians, including a list of allergens, symptoms, and emergency procedures.
- Maintain open communication with families about any changes in allergies or medications.
- Train all staff members on recognizing signs of allergic reactions and implementing emergency protocols.
- Display clear allergy alert signs in relevant areas (e.g., food prep areas, classroom door).

2. Food Safety and Snack Planning

- Develop a list of safe snacks based on the child's allergies.
- Implement a policy where food is not shared among students.
- Communicate with parents about upcoming special events or celebrations involving food.
- Have allergen-free alternatives available from the parent stored in the office or a snack that they bring daily in their Elf bag.

4. Emergency Preparedness

- Ensure that necessary medications (e.g., epinephrine auto-injectors, antihistamines) are accessible and stored properly.
- There must always be a staff member available that has their medication administration certificate. Emergency contact information must be readily available.