04 Health policy

Alongside associated procedures in 04.01 to 04.10 Health, this policy was adopted by Little Doves Christian Pre-School on 2nd September 2021, reviewed in August 2022, July 2023, August 2024 and August 2025.

Aim

Little Doves CP is a suitable, clean and safe place for children to be cared for, where they can grow and learn. All statutory requirements for promoting health and hygiene are met and the criteria for meeting the relevant Early Years Foundation Stage Safeguarding and Welfare requirements are fulfilled.

Objectives

Health is promoted through:

- Ensuring emergency and first aid treatment is given where necessary.
- Ensuring that medicine necessary to maintain health is given correctly and in accordance with legal requirements.
- Identifying allergies and preventing contact with the allergenic substance.
- Having ongoing discussions with parents/carers to develop allergy action plans for managing individual children's known allergies and intolerances.
- Ensuring that all staff are aware of the symptoms and treatments for allergies and anaphylaxis and that children can develop these at any time, especially during weaning.
- Ensuring that all staff know the difference between allergies and intolerances.
- Identifying food ingredients that contain recognised allergens and displaying this information for parents/carers.
- Identifying and promoting health through taking necessary steps to prevent the spread of infection and taking appropriate action when children are ill.
- Ensuring that ongoing discussions with parents take place regarding the stage their child is at in relation to introducing foods.
- Ensuring that food prepared is in line with the child's individual developmental needs.
- Working in partnership with parents to help children to move on to their next stage of eating at a pace that is right for their child.
- Ensuring that food is prepared for children in a way that prevents choking.
- Ensuring that young children are sat safely in a suitable sized chair when eating.
- Ensuring that children are always in sight and hearing of a staff member, who is a paediatric first aider, whilst eating and the staff member is sat with/facing the children, especially those with allergies.

- Recording all choking incidents that requires intervention.
- Promoting healthy lifestyle choices through diet and exercise.
- Supporting parents/carers right to choose complementary therapies.
- Pandemic flu planning or illness outbreak management as per DfE and World Health Organisation (WHO) guidance.

Legal references

Medicines Act (1968)

Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 2013 (RIDDOR)

Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH) Regulations (2002)

Health and Safety (First Aid) Regulations 1981

Food Information Regulations 2014

Early Years Foundation Stage 2025

Further guidance

Accident Record (Alliance Publication)