

Barkhamsted School Food Allergy Management Plan

Goals

To maintain the health and protect the safety of children in the Barkhamsted School who have life-threatening food allergies in ways that are developmentally appropriate, promote self-advocacy and competence in self-care.

To ensure that interventions and individual health care plans for students with life-threatening food allergies are based on medically accurate information and evidence-based practices.

To define a formal process for identifying, managing and ensuring continuity of care for students with life-threatening allergies across all transitions.

Process for the development of Individual Health Care Plans and Emergency Medical Plans for students with life-threatening food allergies:

1. Parents with allergic children are to inform the school of the existence of a life-threatening food allergy including, but not limited to, the offending food and specific reactions.
2. Parents must provide the school nurse with a physician signed emergency medication order so school personnel can administer medication if needed. The emergency medication order must be updated annually prior to the start of each school year and signed by the physician. The parent shall be solely responsible for obtaining such emergency medication at their expense and providing such medication to the school for the treatment of an allergic reaction as ordered by the physician.
3. The school nurse, in collaboration with the parents, student and appropriate staff, will develop an Individual Health Care Plan that will include strategies for food allergy avoidance by the student. This will include, but not be limited to, classroom management of the offending food, prohibiting food sharing, prohibiting the consumption of food on the bus, and an “allergy free” table provided in the cafeteria.
4. The school nurse, in collaboration with the parents and the teacher, will develop an Emergency Medical Plan should an exposure occur during school hours, on school sponsored field trips, and school transportation. This will be reviewed and updated annually by the school nurse and parent with signatures to verify the review. The Emergency Medical Plan will be shared with all staff who will have contact with the student, including the student’s bus driver.

The Emergency Medication

1. The emergency medications ordered for the allergic student will be kept in the health room in an unlocked area for easy access during school hours.

The medication will be locked in the health room during non-school hours. An older student who has been approved to self-administer the medication by his/her physician, the school nurse, and the parent may be allowed to carry the emergency medication in his/her back pack while being transported to and from school. The parent will provide an additional supply of medication for this purpose.

2. At the beginning of each school year, the teacher and any other approved staff who may administer emergency medication to the allergic student will be informed of the student's Individual Health Care Plan and Emergency Medical Plan. They will be trained by the school nurse on the type of allergy, signs of exposure, and how to administer the emergency medication. The classroom teacher will receive a copy of the student's EMP.
3. At the beginning of each school year, the driver of the school bus transporting an allergic student will receive a Bus Emergency Plan should an exposure occur. Emergency medication for the allergic student will be sent on field trips with the student, along with a copy of the EMP. This plan will be reviewed and signed by the parent annually. The plan will be located at an easily identified site on the bus and the school transportation manager will be responsible for reviewing the plan with the driver and any substitute drivers for that bus. The bus driver is not allowed to administer the emergency medication---only to obtain assistance i.e.: call 911.
4. Emergency Medication and a copy of the EMP of the allergic student will be sent on field trips with the student.

Protocols to prevent exposure to food allergens

1. At the beginning of each school year, the school nurse will inform the teacher about the allergic student. The teacher in turn will notify parents of the child's classmates that the classroom will be free from the offending food. The teacher will maintain the no sharing or trading of food and/or utensils requirement.
2. Teachers will communicate with the parent of an allergic student regarding event planning to ensure that the classmates and parents take appropriate allergy management measures. The parent of the allergic student will be encouraged to supply the teacher with appropriate snacks for the student as an alternative to the questionable treat.
3. The teacher of a student with an identified food allergy must inform the school nurse before all field trips. The school nurse, in collaboration with the teacher and parent, will make appropriate arrangements for the student. While on field trips and/or other class events that include hands on activities the teacher is expected to make reasonable inquiry as to whether any items used may contain products to which the student is allergic.
4. Information regarding the ingredients of the school lunch will be provided, upon request, by the Food Services Director to parents/guardians, student and staff. Food service personnel will be

reminded about measures required to prevent cross-contamination during food handling, preparation and serving of food.

5. At least one “allergy free” table will be made available to students with identified food allergies in the school cafeteria. Any student whose lunches do not contain an offending food may also be seated at this table. This “allergy free” table will be washed with a hot water and soap solution prior to the first lunch and after each following lunch period.
6. Students who eat the offending foods at lunch are required to wash their hands and face after eating.

Appendix: #1 IHCP Form
#2 EMCP Form
#3 Bus Emergency Form