

Questions to ask your creche/kinder/school regarding allergy and intolerance management

- Do you have an allergy and asthma policy? Can I have a copy? Where is it available to parents?

- What training do you provide staff regarding this policy? Including temporary/fill in staff?

- First Aid Training? Who is trained and is it up to date?

- How many children in your care currently have allergies and/or asthma management plans?

- Where are the management plans kept? (Should be easily visible with photo of child)

- Where are medications kept?

Do you do practice drills? What is the process in an emergency?

How often do you check expiration dates of medication dates/plans?

What is your policy on bringing in birthday treats?

(eg. no treats, wrapped with ingredient list and given out at end of day, brought in but allergic child has own treat pack supplied by parent?)

How do you manage snacks/lunch/meals? What is the process and how do you prevent sharing of food?

Are all parents aware of allergies and what they cannot bring?

What do you do if an allergen/allergen containing product is bought in? Is it confiscated, area cleaned, parents spoken to, kids spoken to?

- What is the Canteen Policy? How do the manage lunch orders?

- What is your policy for management of allergies and intolerances at school events, sporting events, excursions, school camps etc?

- Other questions you want to ask.

If the care facility cannot answer these questions and supply the relevant documents, then you need to consider their ability to manage your child's allergies and intolerances and ultimate safety. Remember, never apologise or feel embarrassed for looking after your child's safety.