



Task Title: School Allergy Policy

OALCF Cover Sheet – Practitioner Copy

Learner Name: _____

Date Started: _____

Date Completed: _____

Successful Completion: Yes ☐ No ☐

Goal Path: Employment ☒ Apprenticeship ☐

Secondary School ☐ Post Secondary ☐ Independence ☒

Task Description: The learner will read a school anaphylaxis policy, answer written questions, and explain the policy to another person (instructor).

Main Competency/Task Group/Level Indicator:

- Find and Use Information/A1.2
- Communicate Ideas and Information/Interact with others/B1.2

Materials Required:

- Pen/pencil and paper and/or digital device
- Conversation partner (instructor)

Notes for Instructors/Practitioners

Task 4 is a role-playing exercise in which the learner will be a school staff member and you will be a parent. Ask at least two follow-up questions when the learner explains the school's allergy policy. Examples of follow-up questions may include:

- Why can't my child eat her muffin if she isn't sharing it?
- Why can't my child eat her muffin when no one in her class has any allergies?
- Why can't she bring her muffin today? She brought the same muffin to school last week and no one said anything.
- My child doesn't have any allergies. Why do I need to limit what she eats for breakfast because of other children?

Learner Information

Anyone working or volunteering in a school has a responsibility to keep children safe. Many children have life-threatening allergies. Schools typically have very detailed guidelines to minimize exposure to potential allergens so everyone can be safe at school. Educational assistants, early childhood educators, teachers, and other school staff must understand and be able to explain these policies when needed.

Read the “Anaphylaxis Policy”.

ANAPHYLAXIS POLICY

Your understanding and co-operation in ensuring the safest possible school environment for our children is appreciated.

Anaphylaxis is a medical condition that causes a severe reaction to specific foods or other materials, and can result in death within minutes. Although *peanuts* and *peanut products* are the most common foods to cause anaphylaxis, *tree nuts, shellfish, fish, eggs, sulphites, milk, sesame seeds, soy* or any other food can cause this dangerous condition. In recent years, anaphylaxis has increased dramatically among students.

Students who have severe allergies to such food substances are exposed to a severe health risk when such products are present or consumed in the area, or shared with them. Please be aware that allergen contact does not have to be direct (i.e. in the mouth or touched), it can be indirect; on surfaces or in the air and/or environment.

Prevention is the best approach. We ask that you take some time to review the following information with your family (i.e. grandparents), caregiver(s) and child(ren). Please remember:

- Send snacks or lunches with your child that are **free from peanuts, tree nuts, and nut products.**
- Remind your child(ren) about our school rule that they **MUST NOT SHARE FOOD**. In addition, we ask that parents and caregivers do not share food with children on our yard or play structure.
- Please do not bring peanut products to our play structure. All of our primary students use this facility and it presents an *invisible*, but life threatening danger to our children.
- Purchased and fast food products such as "timbits" are often in contact with peanuts (or similar products) even though they may appear to be okay. We do not know what has happened in the preparation.

- To find safe products, *read the labels* and ask your food service providers if they are a "nut free" environment. Some products will indicate their "peanut free" status directly on the packaging (i.e. Chapman Ice Cream products).
- Please note, **if any foods that can affect our anaphylaxis children are brought to school by students, the items will be removed and parents contacted.**

Once again, please discuss this vital issue with your child and also reinforce the importance of not sharing snacks or lunches with other students.

If your child has health problems of any kind inform your child's teacher or office staff immediately so that the necessary health protection steps may be taken. The Board has procedures for the prevention and management of anaphylactic reactions, including bee strings and nut allergies. If you are interested, contact the school office for further information. More information is available through Anaphylaxis-Canada (416-785-5666).

Work Sheet

Task 1: What is the most common food that causes anaphylaxis reactions?

Answer:

Task 2: List three (3) examples of indirect allergen contact that may occur.

Answer:

Task 3: What action should a parent take if their child has a health condition?

Answer:

Task 4: You are a staff member at an elementary school. You are supervising the playground during morning drop off. A parent drops off their child with a muffin in a bag from a fast food restaurant. Explain to your instructor (the parent) why you are concerned about this food. Discuss any action that should be taken.

Answer: No written response required here.

Task completed: Yes: ☐

Answers

Task 1: What is the most common food that causes anaphylaxis reactions?

Answer: Peanuts and peanut products

Task 2: List three (3) examples of indirect allergen contact that may occur.

Answer:

- On surfaces (e.g. desks, playground equipment)
- In the air and/or
- In the environment

Task 3: What action should a parent take if their child has a health condition?

Answer: Inform the child's teacher or office staff immediately so that necessary health protection steps may be taken.

Task 4: You are a staff member at an elementary school. You are supervising the playground during morning drop off. A parent drops off their child with a muffin in a bag from a fast food restaurant. Explain to your instructor (the parent) why you are concerned about this food. Discuss any action that should be taken.

Answers will vary. The learner should identify several of the following

- Fast food products are often in contact with peanuts or other allergens even if they seem to be fine
- We don't know what has happened during preparation of these foods
- To keep children with allergies safe, we ask that fast food not be brought to the school or play yard
- Anaphylaxis is a serious condition that can result in death within minutes
- Children may be allergic to food if it is consumed, but another child bringing food and touching surfaces (play structure), for example, can

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cause an allergic reaction in some children even if they have not ingested or touched the food directly

- It is everyone's responsibility to maintain an allergy-free environment at school so we can keep everyone safe
- Please take the muffin home with you; the learner may also have a creative solution such as asking the parent to have their child eat the muffin their car, then wash their hands before entering the school

Performance Descriptors

Levels	Performance Descriptors	Needs Work	Completes task with support from practitioner	Completes task independently
A1.2	scans text to locate information			
	locates multiple pieces of information in simple texts			
	follows the main events of descriptive, narrative and informational texts			
	obtains information from detailed reading			
B1.2	shows an awareness of factors that affect interactions, such as differences in opinions and ideas, and social, linguistic or cultural differences			
	demonstrates some ability to use tone appropriately			
	uses strategies to maintain communication, such as encouraging responses from others and asking questions			
	speaks or signs clearly in a focused and organized way			
	rephrases to confirm or increase understanding			
	uses and interprets non-verbal cues (e.g. body language, facial expressions, gestures)			

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This task: Was successfully completed ☐ Needs to be tried again ☐

Learner Comments:

Instructor (print):

Learner (print):