

Respect

Responsibility

Excellence

Persistence

ANAPHYLAXIS MANAGEMENT POLICY

Rationale

Anaphylaxis is a severe, rapidly progressive allergic reaction that is potentially life threatening. The most common allergens in school aged children are peanuts, eggs, tree nuts (e.g. cashews), cow's milk, fish and shellfish, wheat, soy, sesame, latex, certain insect stings and medication.

The key to prevention of anaphylaxis in schools is knowledge of those students who have been diagnosed at risk, awareness of triggers (allergens) and prevention of exposure to these triggers. Partnerships between schools and parents are important in ensuring that certain foods or items are kept away from the student while at school.

Adrenaline given through an EpiPen auto-injector to the muscle on the outer mid thigh is the most effective first aid treatment for anaphylaxis.

Purpose

To provide, as far as practicable, a safe and supportive environment in which students at risk of anaphylaxis can participate equally in all aspects of the students schooling.

To raise awareness about anaphylaxis and the school's anaphylaxis management policy in the school community

To engage parents/carers of students of risk of anaphylaxis in assessing risks, developing risk minimisation strategies and management strategies for the student.

To ensure that each staff member has adequate knowledge about allergies, anaphylaxis and the school's policy and procedures in responding to an anaphylactic reaction.

Individual Anaphylaxis Management Plans

School Leadership will ensure that an individual management plan is developed, in consultation with the student's parents, for any student who has been diagnosed by a medical practitioner as being at risk of anaphylaxis.

The individual anaphylaxis management plan will be in place as soon as practicable after the student enrolls, and where possible before their first day of school.

The individual anaphylaxis plan will set out the following:

- Information about the diagnosis, including the type of allergy or allergies the student has (based on a diagnosis from a medical practitioner)
- Strategies to minimise the risk of exposure to allergens while the student is under the care or supervision of school staff, for in-school and out of school settings including camps and excursions
- The name of the person responsible for implementing the strategies
- Information on where the students medication is stored
- The students emergency contact details
- An emergency procedures plan (ASCIA Action Plan), provided by the parent/carer that:
 - Sets out the emergency procedures to be taken in the event of an allergic reaction
 - is signed by a medical practitioner who was treating the child on the date the practitioner signs the emergency procedures plan
 - includes an up to date photo of the student
 - is reviewed annually or as applicable, if the student's condition changes and immediately after a student has an anaphylactic reaction at school.

Staff Training and Emergency Response

All staff will be briefed twice a year by a staff member who has up to date anaphylaxis management training.

Volunteers and CRTs of students at risk of anaphylaxis will be informed of the students at risk and their role in responding to an anaphylactic reaction in the school.

Teachers and other school staff who conduct classes which students at risk of anaphylaxis attend, or give instruction to students at risk of anaphylaxis must have up to date training in anaphylaxis management.

The school's First Aid procedures and students emergency procedures plan (ASCIA Action Plan) will be followed in responding to an anaphylactic reaction.