



## ANAPHYLAXIS POLICY

### BACKGROUND:

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 the school.

Adrenaline given through an EpiPen® autoinjector to the muscle of the outer mid thigh is the most effective first aid treatment for anaphylaxis.

Anaphylaxis is a severe, rapidly progressive allergic reaction that is potentially life threatening.

### 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 student's schooling.

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

To engage with parents/carers of students at 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 MANGEMENT PLANS:

The principal 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 at the school.

The individual anaphylaxis management 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/s responsible for implementing the strategies
- Information on where the student's medication will be stored
- The student's emergency contact details
- An emergency procedures plan (ASCIA Action Plan), provided by the parent, 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; and
  - includes an up to date photograph of the student.

The student's individual management plan will be reviewed, in consultation with the student's parents/carers:

- annually, and as applicable,
- if the student's condition changes, or
- immediately after a student has an anaphylactic reaction at school.

It is the responsibility of the parent to:

- provide the emergency procedures plan (ASCIA Action Plan).
- inform the school if their child's medical condition changes, and if relevant provide an updated emergency procedures plan (ASCIA Action Plan).
- provide an up to date photo for the emergency procedures plan (ASCIA Action Plan) when the plan is provided to the school and when it is reviewed.

### **COMMUNICATION PLAN:**

Note: the Anaphylaxis Guidelines provides advice about strategies to raise staff and student awareness, working with parents/carers and engaging the broader school community

The principal will be responsible for ensuring that a communication plan is developed to provide information to all staff, students and parents about anaphylaxis and the school's anaphylaxis management policy.

The communication plan will include information about what steps will be taken to respond to an anaphylactic reaction by a student in a classroom, in the school yard, on school excursions, on school camps and special event days.

Volunteers and casual relief staff of students at risk of anaphylaxis will be informed of students at risk of anaphylaxis and their role in responding to an anaphylactic reaction by a student in their care by the assistant principal or student wellbeing officer.

All staff will be briefed once each semester by a staff member who has up to date anaphylaxis management training on:

- the school's anaphylaxis management policy
- the causes, symptoms and treatment of anaphylaxis
- the identities of students diagnosed at risk of anaphylaxis and where their medication is located
- how to use an autoadrenaline injecting device
- the school's first aid and emergency response procedures

### **STAFF TRAINING AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE:**

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 an anaphylaxis management training course.

At other times while the student is under the care or supervision of the school, including excursions, yard duty, camps and special event days, the principal must ensure that there is a sufficient number of staff present who have up to date training in an anaphylaxis management training course.

The principal will identify the school staff to be trained based on a risk assessment.

Training will be provided to these staff as soon as practicable after the student enrolls.

Wherever possible, training will take place before the student's first day at school. Where this is not possible, an interim plan will be developed in consultation with the parents.

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

**This policy was ratified by School Council: 2013**

**Next policy review: 2017**

Appendices :

- Anaphylaxis Risk Management Checklist
- Anaphylaxis Management Plan

References :

- [DEECD Anaphylaxis Policy](#)
- [DEECD Health Support Planning Policy](#)

<b>Date Implemented</b>	
<b>Author</b>	
<b>Approved By</b>	School Council
<b>Approval Authority (Signature &amp; Date)</b>	
<b>Date Reviewed</b>	
<b>Responsible for Review</b>	Assistant Principal
<b>Review Date</b>	
<b>References</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">DEECD Anaphylaxis Policy</a></li><li>• <a href="#">DEECD Health Support Planning Policy</a></li></ul>

# ANAPHYLAXIS RISK MANAGEMENT CHECKLIST

**School Name** Box Hill North Primary School

Address: Elizabeth Street, Box Hill North, VIC 3129

Date of Review: 2014

School Contact Person: Name:

(Who provided information collected)

Position:

Review given to: Name:

(If different from above)

Position:

Comments:

1. How many current students are diagnosed with anaphylaxis?.....
2. Have any students ever had an allergic reaction while at school? YES  NO   
If Yes, how many times?
3. Have any students had an Anaphylactic Reaction at school? YES  NO   
If Yes, how many times?
4. Has a staff member been required to administer an EpiPen® to a student? YES  NO   
If yes, how many times?

# ANAPHYLAXIS RISK MANAGEMENT CHECKLIST

## Section 1 Anaphylaxis management Plans and ASCIA Action Plans

1. Does every student who has been diagnosed at risk of anaphylaxis have an individual Anaphylaxis Management Plan in place? (see Section 4.1 and Appendix 1, Anaphylaxis Guidelines)? YES  NO

2. Are all Anaphylaxis Management Plans reviewed regularly with parents (at least annually)? YES  NO

1. Do they set out strategies to minimise the risk of exposure to allergens for in-school and out of class settings?

During classroom activities, including elective classes YES  NO

In canteens or during lunch or snack times YES  NO

Before and after school, in the school yard and during breaks YES  NO

For special events, such as excursions, sport days, class parties and extra curricular activities? YES  NO

For excursions and camps YES  NO

Other

4. Do all students who suffer from anaphylaxis have a copy of their ASCIA Action Plan kept at school (provided by the parent)? YES  NO

5. Where are they kept?

6. Do the anaphylaxis action plans have a recent photo of the student with them? YES  NO

Comments

**Section 2 Storage and accessibility of the EpiPen**

1. Where are the students EpiPen's® Stored?

2. How are the EpiPens® stored?

3. Is the storage safe (out of reach of students)?

YES  NO

Is the storage unlocked and accessible to staff at all times?

YES  NO

**Comments**

Is the EpiPen® easy to find?

YES  NO

**Comments**

4. Is a copy of students' ASCIA Action Plans kept together with their EpiPen®?

YES  NO

**Comments**

5. Are EpiPen's® and Action Plans clearly labelled with students' names?

YES  NO

**Comments**

6. Has someone been designated to check the EpiPen's® expiry dates on regular basis?

YES  NO

Who?.....

**Comments**

7. Has the College signed up to EpiClub (a free reminder service)?

YES  NO

8. Do all staff know where the EpiPens® and Action Plans are Stored?

YES  NO

**Comments**

9. Is there a spare EpiPen®?

YES  NO

If Yes, what Type?

10. Where is it stored?

11. Is it clearly labelled as the 'backup EpiPen-?

YES  NO

### **Section 3 Prevention Strategies**

1. Have you done a risk assessment of the potential for accidental exposure to allergens for a student with anaphylaxis?

YES  NO

2. Has the school implemented any of the prevention strategies (in Appendix 2 of the Guidelines)?

YES  NO

3. Which ones?

4. Others:

5. Is there always a trained staff member on yard duty?

YES  NO

6. How many staff have completed training?

### **Section 4 Training and Emergency Response**

1. Have all staff responsible for the care of students with anaphylaxis been trained?

YES  NO

2. When does their training need to be renewed?

3. Do all staff have an understanding of the causes, signs and symptoms of anaphylaxis and of their role in the school's first aid and emergency response procedures?

YES  NO

4. Have you planned how the alarm will be raised if an allergic reaction occurs?

In the class room?

YES  NO

How?

In the school yard?

YES  NO

How?

At school camps and excursions?

YES  NO

How?

On special event days, such as sports days?

YES  NO

How?

5. Does your plan include who will call the Ambulance?

YES  NO

How?

6. In an emergency is there a plan for who will be sent to collect the EpiPen® and Action Plan? YES  NO

Who will this be when in the class room?

Who will this be when in the school yard?

Who will this be at sporting activities?

7. Have you checked how long will it take to get to the EpiPen® and Action Plan to a student from various areas of the school?

YES  NO

How long?

When in the class room? YES  NO

How long?

When in the school yard? YES  NO

How long?

When at sports fields? YES  NO

How long?

8. On excursions or other out of school event is there a plan for who will look after the EpiPen®

and Action Plan? YES  NO

Who will do this on excursions?

Who will do this on camps?

Who will do this on sporting activities?

9. Is there a process for post incident support in place? YES  NO

10. Have all staff been briefed on:-

the school's Anaphylaxis Management Policy? YES  NO

the causes, symptoms and treatments of anaphylaxis? YES  NO

the identities of students diagnosed at risk of anaphylaxis and where their medication is located? YES  NO

how to use an adrenaline auto-injecting device, including hands on practice with a trainer adrenaline auto-injecting device

YES  NO



the school's first aid and emergency response procedures

YES  NO

### **Section 5: Communicating with staff, students and parents / carers**

1. Is there a communication plan in place to provide information about anaphylaxis and the school's policies to staff, students and parents/ carers?

YES  NO

2. Are there procedures in place for informing casual relief teachers of students at risk of anaphylaxis and the steps required for prevention and emergency response?

YES  NO

Comments

3. Do all staff know which students suffer from anaphylaxis?  
Comments

YES  NO

How is this information kept up to date?

4. Are there strategies in place to increase awareness about severe allergies among students?

YES  NO

Comments