

# ANAPHYLAXIS

## POLICY

### Purpose

Templeton Primary School recognises:

- 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, 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 identified as at risk, awareness of triggers (allergens) and prevention of exposure to these triggers. Partnership between schools and parents are important in ensuring allergens are isolated from the student while at school.
- Adrenaline administered through an EpiPen auto injector to the muscle of the outer mid-thigh is the most effective first aid treatment for anaphylaxis.

Templeton Primary School

- As far as practicable, provides a safe and supportive environment in which students at risk of anaphylaxis can participate equally in all aspects of the school curriculum.
- Raises awareness about anaphylaxis and the school's anaphylaxis policy in the school community.
- Engages with parents/guardians of students at risk of anaphylaxis in assessing risks, developing risk minimisation strategies and management strategies for the student.
- Ensures that each staff member has adequate knowledge of allergies, anaphylaxis and the school policy and procedures in responding to an anaphylactic reaction.

### Implementation

- Individual management plans developed in consultation with parents of any student diagnosed by a medical practitioner as being at risk of anaphylaxis.
- Individual management plans in place as soon as practicable after student enrolment, and where possible, before the first day of school.
- The Principal will ensure that all school stakeholders be provided information about the anaphylaxis and the anaphylaxis policy.

References: School Policy and Advisory Guide  
Anaphylaxis Management in Schools  
Anaphylaxis Guidelines for Victorian Schools

- Casual Relief Teachers (CRT) of students at risk of anaphylaxis informed of their role in responding to anaphylactic reaction via CRT information pack in classroom rolls.
- All school staff who conduct classes with students at risk of anaphylaxis attend training in anaphylaxis management.
- Training provided to these staff as soon as practicable after the student enrolls.
- Wherever possible, training will take place before the first day of school.
- Where this is not possible, an interim plan developed in consultation with the parents.
- The Templeton Primary School first aid procedures and Whole School Anaphylaxis Management Plan followed when responding to an anaphylactic reaction.
- At other times the student is under care or supervision of the school, including excursions, yard duty, camps and special events, the Principal must ensure a sufficient number of staff who have current training in anaphylaxis management.

#### **Whole School Anaphylaxis Management Plan**

- Staff receive annual training by an officer from Australian Training Corporation.
- Photos and appropriate details displayed in staffroom, Sick Bay, Specialists office areas, classrooms and CRT information pack kept in classroom rolls.
- In emergencies, the yard duty teacher will call for assistance via mobile phone to the school office.
- Properly labelled EpiPens (detailing child's name and expiry date) stored in separate cooler boxes in the office area.
- Qualified First Aid Officer check viability of EpiPens at the beginning of each term.
- EpiPens in cooler boxes will accompany each student on excursions.
- If any teacher observes allergic reactions in these identified students, that teacher should follow the Action Plan for Anaphylaxis.

## Procedure

- Check reaction of child
- Watch for signs of anaphylaxis
- If there are signs of anaphylaxis
  - call for help
  - call ambulance 000
    - state that there is an anaphylaxis reaction
    - give school address, staff car park entrance
    - intention to give EpiPen or that EpiPen has been administered
- keep child lying down
- contact parent
- do not relocate child
- comfort child
- contact Emergency Services Management DET phone 9589 6266
- **NOTE: If in doubt, administer EpiPen**

## Responsibility of the Principal

- Seek information to identify students with life threatening allergies upon enrolment
- Conduct risk assessment of potential exposure to allergens in the school environment
- Ensure First Aid Officer develops Anaphylaxis Action Plan for individual students
- Request parents provide Australasian Society of Clinical Immunology (ASCIA) signed by medical practitioner and recent student photograph
- Request parents provide valid EpiPen to office
- Ensure staff training in Anaphylaxis Management is current
- Ensure staff and CRT staff are aware of at-risk students, school management strategies and first aid procedures
- Encourage ongoing communication between parents/guardians and staff about current status of at-risk students

## Responsibility of Parent/Guardian

- Provide Australasian Society of Clinical Immunology (ASCIA) signed by medical practitioner and recent student photograph
- Inform school of any change to child's medical condition and provide updated ASCIA
- Provide EpiPen and other medications to the school
- Replace EpiPen before expiry
- Assist school in planning and preparation for school camps, excursions, incursions or special events
- Supply alternative food options when appropriate
- Inform school of any change to child's emergency contact details
- Participate in review of child's Anaphylaxis Management Plan

## Responsibility of Staff

- Ensure training in Anaphylaxis Management is current

- Aware of at-risk students, school management strategies and first aid procedures
- Aware of at-risk students
- Aware of location of ASCIA Action Plans and follow in the event of an allergic reaction
- Aware of EpiPen location
- Aware of and adherence to prevention strategies in Anaphylaxis Management Plan
- Plan ahead in preparation for school camps, excursions, incursions or special events
- Work with parent/guardian to provide appropriate food for at-risk student
- Avoid use of food as rewards or treats, as they may contain hidden allergens
- Care in risk of cross contamination when preparing, handling and displaying food
- Ensure tables and surfaces are washed regularly and students wash hands after food handling

**Responsibility of Student (with support from staff, parents and first aid staff and appropriate to level of development)**

- Ensure they do not eat food items not supplied by parents, or in accordance with their Anaphylaxis Management Plan
- Communicate restrictions applicable to their allergy
- Communicate symptoms of allergic reaction to staff or supervising adult immediately
- Take control of their food intake as per medical guidelines

**Evaluation**

This policy will be reviewed in accordance with the school’s three-year review cycle.

This Policy was last ratified by School Council	<b>February 2018</b>
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