



WINTHROP PRIMARY SCHOOL

ANAPHYLAXIS AWARENESS AND MANAGEMENT POLICY

Purpose:

- To provide a safe learning environment for all members of the Winthrop Primary School community.
- To provide a safe school environment for students who have allergies.

Principles:

- Providing, as far as practicable, a safe and supportive environment in which students at risk of anaphylaxis can participate equally in all aspects of their school;
- Raising awareness about allergies and anaphylaxis in the school community;
- Actively involving the parents/guardians of each student at risk of anaphylaxis in assessing risks, developing risk minimisation and management strategies for the student;
- Ensuring that an adequate number of staff members have an understanding of the causes, signs and symptoms of anaphylaxis and of their role in the school's emergency response procedures.

Procedures:

The key to the prevention of anaphylaxis in schools is awareness of known allergens and prevention of exposure to known allergens. The points documented below outline the planning and education and procedures to support students with severe allergies.

Parents And Guardian's/Carers Responsibilities:

- Inform the principal, either at enrolment or diagnosis, of their child's allergies and whether their child has been diagnosed as being at risk of anaphylaxis (e.g. provide an ASCIA Action Plan, completed by their child's medical practitioner and includes a clear colour photograph of the child).
- Immediately advise the principal of any change their child's medical condition.
- Advise staff of any change to their child's emergency contact details.

- Provide the adrenaline auto injector and any other medications to the school in a labelled 'bum bag'.
- Replace the adrenaline auto injector and any other medications before the expiry date. It is advisable to check expiry dates each term.
- Alert staff to the additional risks associated with non- routine events and assist in planning and preparation camps, excursions, special events, class parties and sport days.
- Supply alternative food options for their child when needed.
- Educate their child about eating only food provided from home.
- Reinforce that their child should not share food with other students.
- For older children, educate about the responsibility of carrying their own adrenaline auto injector and the need to have their medication available at all times.

Administration Team (Principal / Deputy Principal) :

- Actively seek information to identify a student with a severe life threatening allergy at enrolment.
- Meet with parents/ guardians as required to develop an Individual Anaphylaxis Health Care Plan for the child.
- Request parents/guardians provide an ASCIA Action Plan which has been completed by the child's practitioner and has a clear, colour and up to date photograph attached.
- Ensure parents /guardians provide the adrenaline auto injector, provided in a 'bum bag'.
- Ensure that an adequate number of staff are trained in how to recognise and respond to an anaphylactic reaction, including the administering of the adrenaline auto injector. This should include regular practice using adrenaline auto injector training devices.
- Ensure a treatment information poster is displayed in the medical room, detailing procedures for administering and monitoring a person with anaphylaxis.
- Provide information to all staff so that they are aware of student at risk of anaphylaxis.

- With parental consent, provide staff with copies of ASCIA Action Plans for display in classroom / staff room.
- Ensure communication procedures for casual/ relief staff of the child's risk of anaphylaxis.
- Encourage ongoing communication between parents/guardians and staff about the child's current allergy status.
- Provide or arrange for post incident support for students and staff if needed and appropriate.
- Ensure staff working in canteens are aware of the risk of cross contamination of when preparing or displaying food.
- Ensure staff working in canteens are aware of this Anaphylaxis Awareness Policy.
- Work with staff to develop strategies to increase awareness about severe allergies amongst school staff, students and the broader school community.
- Provide a copy of the school's (this) Anaphylaxis Awareness Policy to parents on the school website.

Staff Responsibilities:

- Know the identity of students in their care who is at risk of anaphylaxis.
- Understand the causes, symptoms and treatments of anaphylaxis.
- Consider undertaking training in how to recognise and respond to an anaphylactic reaction.
- Keep a copy of student (s) ASCIA Action Plan and ensure it is followed in the event of an allergic reaction.
- Know where the auto injector is kept and check that it is in date.
- Keep a 'red card' for Administration team assistance easily accessible.
- Know and implement risk minimisation strategies for anaphylaxis.
- Plan ahead for special activities, camps, excursions, class parties and work with the parent to provide alternative / appropriate food choices for the student.
- Do not use food treats in the class.
- Be aware of hidden allergens in foods and traces of allergens when using items such as egg or milk cartons in art or cooking.
- Raise student awareness about severe allergies and the importance of their role in supporting their peers with a risk of anaphylaxis.

Community Responsibilities:

- Parents are urged to pack 'nut free' lunches and to avoid packing lunches which contain:
 - Nuts
 - Foods with a nut derivative (e.g. hazelnut and peanut spreads).
 - Where ever possible, foods which contain traces of nuts.

Appendix

Anaphylaxis is a severe and sudden allergic reaction. It occurs when a person is exposed to an allergen to which they are sensitive.

Other potential allergens may include soy, sesame, wheat, seeds, coconut and latex. The Australasian Society of Clinical Immunology and Allergy has details of a wide range of allergens within their Anaphylaxis Resources for patients and consumers at <http://www.allergy.org.au/> patients

Allergens or trigger substances that may cause anaphylaxis in school-aged children are:

Common Allergens			
			
Peanuts	Tree nuts	Insect stings	Cows milk
			
Shellfish	Fish	Eggs	Some medications

