

COLDSTREAM P.S.

ANAPHYLAXIS

POLICY

Rationale:

- Anaphylaxis is an acute allergic reaction to certain food items or insect stings. The condition develops in approximately 1-2% of the population. The most common allergens are nuts, eggs, cow's milk and bee or other insect stings, and some medications. It can be life threatening and research indicates it is becoming more prevalent.
- The School will fully comply with the Ministerial Order 706 and the associated Guidelines.

Aims:

- To provide a safe and healthy school environment that takes into consideration the needs of all students, including those who may suffer from anaphylaxis.

Implementation:

- Signs and symptoms of anaphylaxis include hives/rash, tingling in or around the mouth, abdominal pain, vomiting or diarrhoea, facial swelling, cough or wheeze, difficulty breathing or swallowing, loss of consciousness or collapse, or cessation of breathing.
- Anaphylaxis is best prevented by knowing and avoiding the allergens.
- 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 set out the following:
 - information about the student's medical condition that relates to allergy and the potential for anaphylactic reaction, including the type of allergy/allergies the student has (based on a written diagnosis from a Medical Practitioner);
 - strategies to minimise the risk of exposure to known and notified allergens while the student is under the care or supervision of School Staff, for in-school and out-of-school settings including in the school yard, at camps and excursions, or at special events conducted, organised or attended by the School;
 - 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; and
 - an ASCIA Action Plan.
 - School Staff will then implement and monitor the student's Individual Anaphylaxis Management Plan.
 - The student's Individual Anaphylaxis Management Plan will be reviewed, in consultation with the student's Parents in all of the following circumstances:
 - annually;
 - if the student's medical condition, insofar as it relates to allergy and the potential for anaphylactic reaction, changes;
 - as soon as practicable after the student has an anaphylactic reaction at School; and
 - when the student is to participate in an off-site activity, such as camps and excursions, or at special events conducted, organised or attended by the School eg. class parties, elective subjects, cultural days, fetes, incursions
- it is the responsibility of the Parents to:

- provide student's emergency contact details
 - provide the ASCIA Action Plan;
 - inform the School in writing if their child's medical condition, insofar as it relates to allergy and the potential for anaphylactic reaction, changes and if relevant, provide an updated ASCIA Action Plan;
 - provide an up to date photo for the ASCIA Action Plan when that Plan is provided to the School and when it is reviewed; and
 - provide the School with an Adrenaline Auto injector that is current and not expired for their child.
- Our school will manage anaphylaxis training by:-
 - providing training at least every 3 years for all staff on anaphylaxis management organised through St John's Ambulance,
 - participate in briefings twice a year on:
 - the School's Anaphylaxis Management Policy; (conducted by a member of School Staff who has successfully completed an Anaphylaxis Management Training Course in the last 12 months.)
 - the causes, symptoms and treatment of anaphylaxis;
 - the identities of the students with a medical condition that relates to an allergy and the potential for anaphylactic reaction, and where their medication is located;
 - how to use an Adrenaline Auto injector, including hands on practise with a trainer Adrenaline Auto injector device; such as an EpiPen or an Anapen
 - the School's general first aid and emergency response procedures; and
 - the location of, and access to, Adrenaline Auto injector that have been provided by Parents or purchased by the School for general use.
- the community will be informed about anaphylaxis via the newsletter
 - students will be informed about allergies, including anaphylaxis causes and first aid, as part of the prep-6 curriculum.
 - volunteers and casual relief staff will be informed of students with allergies and the potential for an anaphylactic reaction.
 - food sharing, will not be permitted and food restricted to that approved by parents
 - lawns will be kept mown, and children must wear shoes outdoors.
 - the Principal will purchase adrenaline auto injector for general use.
 - ASCIA Anaphylaxis Action Response Posters will be displayed in the staff room, sick bay, student's classrooms and in OOSH, as appropriate.
 - open communication with parents will be maintained.
 - teaching staff will ensure the EpiPen is taken and returned to the sick bay when an anaphylactic student in their class has an excursion, camp or any outside the school activity.
 - The school won't ban certain types of foods (eg: nuts) as it is not practicable to do so, and is not a strategy recommended by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development or the Royal Children's Hospital. However, the school will request that parents do not send those items to school if at all possible; that the special lunch days and sausage sizzles eliminate or reduce the likelihood of such allergens, and the school will reinforce the rules about not sharing food, and not eating foods that parents have not provided or consented to.

NB This policy is to be used in conjunction with the Anaphylaxis Guidelines for Victorian Schools

Evaluation:

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review.

This policy was last ratified by School Council in....	April 2014
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