

# ANAPHYLAXIS POLICY



## Rationale

Holy Spirit School is a caring community which promotes and protects the rights of everyone to feel safe and secure in all situations. As such, the school will implement all the required policies and procedures to try to ensure the safety of children who suffer from anaphylactic reactions. These allergic reactions to nuts, dairy, bee stings or other food or substances can cause serious health issues and can, in some situations, be fatal. Rapid onset and development of symptoms are characteristics of anaphylaxis. The support of the whole community is required to ensure a safe environment in which our children can learn and play.

## Guidelines

**To provide a safe environment for students who suffer from anaphylactic reactions, Holy Spirit School will ensure:**

1. Parents and children are made aware, through newsletters and notices of the school's request that the following list of products are **not permitted** to be brought to school:
  - Nuts of any kind
  - Peanut butter/ paste
  - Nutella
  - Nut muesli bars
  - Whole boiled eggs
  - Egg sandwiches
  - Egg cartons
2. None of the products above will be available from the tuckshop.
3. Staff will remove and discard any food source found containing the products above from classrooms
4. A current coloured *ascia Action Plan for Anaphylaxis* has been received for each child at risk
5. Small photos of "at risk" children and emergency treatment information will be included on every staff member's duty bag
6. All staff are trained in Anaphylaxis First Aid annually and are aware of the expectations requiring them to administer an Epipen in emergency situations
7. All students at risk will wear a yellow dot onto the top of their hat so they can be easily identified by staff in the playground, excursions, sports carnivals

**To provide a safe environment for students who suffer from anaphylactic reactions, parents with children at Holy Spirit School will ensure:**

1. The school is provided with a current *ascia Action Plan for Anaphylaxis* from treating specialist/ doctor
2. The school is supplied with the necessary medication (Epipen, anti-histamine) and that all medication is clearly labelled and is not past its expiry date
3. Potential risks are discussed with the school through an annual Individual Health Care Plan

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4. Children at risk are encouraged to become independent and made especially aware of the importance of not sharing food with others

## Procedures

The school is to be notified as early as possible about a student's medically diagnosed anaphylaxis.

The school is to be provided with a current *ascia Action Plan for Anaphylaxis* from the treating medical practitioner. This should include details of the potential severity of the reaction and the details of the prescribed medications.

Anaphylaxis alert charts will be placed in appropriate areas within the school

An Individual Health Care Plan will be developed in consultation with parents, principal and the child to discuss any potential risks to the child

Parents will encourage their children to become independent, to be aware of the policy of not sharing food and the importance of caring for their medication

The school community is made aware through newsletters and notices that there are children in the school who suffer from anaphylactic reactions. The school does not permit any kind of nuts, peanut butter/ paste, Nutella, nut muesli bars to be brought to school. These products are not available from the tuckshop

All staff complete regular training in Anaphylaxis First Aid, including identification of allergic reactions, the use of the EpiPen and the emergency procedures to follow

EpiPens are for use in an emergency only, with one being carried on the child at all times. There is also a Junior and Adult EpiPen stored in the First Aid Room (School Office)

Regular reviews of the child's management plan will take place to ensure the child's safety needs are catered for to the best of the school's ability