

## Anaphylaxis Communication Plan

**Anaphylaxis** is a potentially life threatening, severe allergic reaction and should always be treated as a medical emergency. Anaphylaxis occurs after exposure to an allergen (usually to foods, insects or medicines), to which a person is allergic. Not all people with allergies are at risk of anaphylaxis.

Symptoms of anaphylaxis are potentially life threatening and include any one of the following:

- Difficult/noisy breathing
- Swelling of tongue
- Swelling/tightness in throat
- Difficulty talking and/or hoarse voice
- Wheeze or persistent cough
- Persistent dizziness and/or collapse
- Pale and floppy (in young children)

## Raising Staff Awareness

All School Staff must have successfully completed an Anaphylaxis Management Training Course in the previous three years; and participate in a twice-yearly briefing, the first of which will be held at the beginning of a school year, on:

- the School's Anaphylaxis Management Policy;
- causes, symptoms and treatment of anaphylaxis;
- the identities of students diagnosed with a medical condition that relates to allergy and the potential for anaphylactic reaction and where their medication is located;
- how to use an Adrenaline Autoinjector, including hands on practise with a trainer Adrenaline Autoinjector;
- the School's general first aid and emergency response procedures; and
- the location of, and access to, Adrenaline Autoinjectors that have been provided by Parents or purchased by the School for general use.

The briefing must be conducted by a member of the School Staff who has current anaphylaxis training i.e. has successfully completed an Anaphylaxis Management Training Course in the previous 12 months.

## Casual Relief Teachers and Volunteers

- Will be shown the First Aid Area and the ASCIA plans of at risk children and the location of each student's adrenaline autoinjector.
- Will be directed to the location of the nearest staff member working near them who has anaphylaxis training in case of emergency.

## Locations of Student Lists, Photos , Plans and Medication

Documentation relating to students with anaphylaxis is located in the:

- Emergency Management & First Aid area in the kitchen

Medication relation to students with anaphylaxis is located in the:

- Emergency Management & First Aid area in the Kitchen

## Raising Student Awareness

Classroom programs during the year will raise awareness of:

- Serious allergic reactions
- Students enrolled at the school who have anaphylaxis
- The importance of not sharing food
- Signs to look for in an anaphylactic response
- How to get help if students notice anaphylactic signs in themselves or others

An ASCIA Action Plan for general use will be on display in the school in the Emergency Management & First Aid area in the kitchen

## Working with Parents

Parents of students with anaphylaxis are required to:

- provide a completed ASCIA Action Plan
- inform the School in writing if their child's medical condition changes and if relevant, provide an updated ASCIA Action Plan.
- provide an up to date photo for the ASCIA Action Plan when the Plan is initially provided to the School and when it is reviewed; and
- provide the School with an Adrenaline Autoinjector that is current and not expired, for their child.

## Response to an Anaphylactic Reaction

In the event of a student experiencing an anaphylactic reaction, staff will;

### **In the Classroom and school grounds**

- The teacher in charge will collect the student's personal autoinjector and ACSIA plan and take it to the student's location
- The ACSIA plan will be followed and a person designated by the teacher in charge will call 000 and request an ambulance
- Parents will be notified immediately

### **Off-site**

When students are taken offsite e.g. to the park during lunchtime or for a curriculum based activity the following risk minimisation strategies are in place:

- There will be a minimum of one teacher in attendance who will have up to date anaphylaxis training
- Teachers will carry a first aid back pack that contains the anaphylaxis student's autoinjector, a general use autoinjector, a general ACSIA action plan and list of parent and emergency contacts details
- At least one teacher will carry a charged mobile phone
- In the event of a student experiencing an anaphylactic reaction, staff will administer the autoinjector and will call 000 and request an ambulance
- Parents will be notified immediately

### **At Excursions/Sports/Camps**

- The school will inform camp service providers of any students with anaphylaxis to ensure that appropriate arrangements are made for students participating in the activity
- A review of the Anaphylaxis Management Plan will take place between the teacher/parents/first aid officer to discuss any risks such as location of camp, mobile phone coverage, separation and labelling of foods
- A student's personal autoinjector, ASCIA plan, an appropriate number of general use autoinjectors and a list of parent and emergency contact details will accompany the student to all excursions, sports events and camps
- The autoinjector will be kept within close proximity of the student
- In the event of an anaphylactic reaction, the supervising teacher will administer the autoinjector and ring 000 for an ambulance
- Parents will be notified immediately