



Melrose Primary School

RESPECT ~ HONESTY ~ RESPONSIBILITY ~ EXCELLENCE

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Allergy Awareness Policy

Rationale

An allergic reaction occurs when the immune system reacts to substances in the environment. It is not possible to guarantee that the environment will be completely free of potential hazards. However, compliance to reasonable guidelines will minimise the potential risks.

Aims

- To raise the awareness of anaphylactic conditions for all members of the school community
- To provide a safe school environment for all members of the school community.

Parents

- Are required NOT to send food to school that contain peanuts. This includes products such as peanut butter, peanut cooking oil and peanut bars
- Will be informed of this policy at the commencement of each new school year and at enrolment.

Parents of student with allergies

- Must supply all relevant medical advice about the allergy at enrolment or when an enrolled student is diagnosed
- Must supply an Anaphylaxis Management Plan signed by a doctor
- Responsible for the supply of an in date EpiPen® and other medication
- Annual review their child's health condition with a medical practitioner
- Provide all food required by the student, e.g. treats for special occasions
- Assist the school by educating their child in safe practices concerning their allergy
- May need to be available to attend excursions or camps.

Students

- Are encouraged to wash hands before and after eating
- Should a student bring food to school containing peanuts, the student will be requested to eat under the designated area and wash their hands before joining other students
- Are not to share food.

Staff

- Will be made aware of students who have anaphylactic responses, including nut allergy
- Ensure student's EpiPen® and action plan accompanies student when leaving school grounds on excursions and camps
- Will supervise students during lunch eating time and will be vigilant in regard to this policy

- Will regularly undertake first aid training specifically including epi-pen training
- Will develop appropriate risk minimisation strategies with anaphylaxis when planning activities
- Where age appropriate, communication with peers of the child or young person identified to be at risk of anaphylaxis, to identify minimisation and strategies that apply to them

The school

- Develop individual action plans in consultation with the student's parent/s. This will include medical history, sources of possible risk exposure, strategies to minimise risk, who will be responsible, location of student's EpiPen, emergency plan and all staff be made aware of the medical action plan
- Will promote the [ASCIA website](#) and [Allergy & Anaphylaxis Australia](#) website to access resources and e-training modules (see appendix)
- Will be aware of all children and young people enrolled with a known risk of anaphylaxis and be informed of the general triggers, management strategies and emergency response for that child or young person
- Ensure that relief teachers, volunteers, student teachers or outside caterers are fully aware of all special requirements.
- Ensure staff are following the allergy awareness policy and that all staff follow the anaphylaxis management plan as supplied by the student's doctor.

Resources

Allergy & Anaphylaxis Australia have developed [examples of risk minimisation strategies for schools, preschools and childcare services \(PDF, 1.1MB\)](#). This is endorsed by Australasian Society of Clinical Immunology and Allergy (ASCI). The department recommends this is reviewed when developing risk minimisation strategies.

More resources are on [Allergy & Anaphylaxis Australia – schooling and childcare](#).

Appendix