



St John the Apostle
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL, TARNEIT WEST

ANAPHYLAXIS MANAGEMENT POLICY

2018

ST JOHN THE APOSTLE
CATHOLIC PRIMARY
SCHOOL

54 – 76 Kingbird Ave, Tarneit
West

Principal
Mr. Simon Dundon

Rationale

Anaphylaxis is a severe, rapidly progressive allergic reaction that is potentially life threatening. The most common allergens in school aged children are peanuts, eggs, tree nuts (e.g. cashews), cow's milk, fish and shellfish, wheat, soy, sesame, latex, certain insect stings and medication.

The key to prevention of anaphylaxis in schools is knowledge of those students who have been diagnosed at risk, awareness of triggers (allergens), and prevention of exposure to these triggers. Partnerships between schools and parents are important in ensuring that certain foods or items are kept away from the student while at school. Adrenaline given through an EpiPen® autoinjector to the muscle of the outer mid-thigh is the most effective first aid treatment for anaphylaxis.

Aims

The Anaphylaxis Management Policy at St John the Apostle Catholic Primary School aims to:

- Provide, as far as practicable, a safe and supportive environment in which students at risk of anaphylaxis can participate equally in all aspects of the student's schooling
- Raise awareness about anaphylaxis and the school's Anaphylaxis Management Policy in the school community
- Engage with parents/carers of students at risk of anaphylaxis in assessing risks, developing risk minimisation strategies and management strategies for the student
- Ensure that each staff member has adequate knowledge about allergies, anaphylaxis and the school's policy and procedures in responding to an anaphylactic reaction

Implementation

- 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 be in place as soon as practicable after the student enrolls and, where possible, before their first day of school
- The individual Anaphylaxis Management Plan will set out the following:
 - Information about the diagnosis, including the type of allergy or allergies the student has (based on a diagnosis from a medical practitioner)
 - The following strategies to minimise the risk of exposure to allergens while the student is under the care or supervision of school staff, for in-school and out of school settings, including camps and excursions:
 - 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
- An emergency procedures plan (ASCIA Action Plan), provided by the parent, that:
 - Sets out the emergency procedures to be taken in the event of an allergic reaction
 - Is signed by a medical practitioner who was treating the child on the date the practitioner signs the emergency procedures plan
 - Includes an up-to-date photograph of the student
- The student's individual management plan will be reviewed, in consultation with the student's parents/ carers:
 - Annually, and as applicable
 - If the student's condition changes
 - Immediately after a student has an anaphylactic reaction at school
- It is the responsibility of the parent to:
 - Provide the emergency procedures plan (ASCIA Action Plan)
 - Inform the school if their child's medical condition changes and, if relevant, provide an updated emergency procedures plan (ASCIA Action Plan)
 - Provide an up to date photo for the emergency procedures plan (ASCIA Action Plan) when the plan is provided to the school and when it is reviewed.

Communication

- The Principal will be responsible for ensuring that a communication plan is developed to provide all information to staff, students and parents about anaphylaxis and the St John the Apostle Catholic Primary School's Anaphylaxis Management Policy
- The communication plan will include information about the steps that will be taken to respond to an anaphylactic reaction by a student in a classroom, in the school yard, on school excursions, on school camps and special event days
- Volunteers and emergency teachers of students at risk of anaphylaxis will be informed of students at risk of anaphylaxis and their role in responding to an anaphylactic reaction by a student in their care by the principal, deputy principal or person in charge
- All staff will be briefed once each Semester by a staff member who has up to date anaphylaxis management training on:
 - The school's Anaphylaxis Management Policy
 - The causes, symptoms and treatment of anaphylaxis

- The identities of students diagnosed at risk of anaphylaxis and where their medication is located
- How to use an autoadrenaline injecting device
- The school's first aid and emergency response procedures

Evaluation

This policy will be reviewed to ensure it adheres to current Child Safety Standards, as part of the school's four-year review cycle.