



ANAPHYLAXIS

POLICY

Rationale:

The intent of this policy is to ensure that Shepparton Christian College has in place an effective and practical management program for all anaphylactic children within our care.

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.

Background:

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.

Symptoms of anaphylaxis include hives/rash, tingling in or around the mouth, abdominal pain, vomiting or diarrhoea, facial swelling, cough or wheeze, difficulty breathing, swelling of the tongue, tightness of the throat, dizziness, loss of consciousness or collapse, or cessation of breathing.

Anaphylaxis is best prevented by knowing and avoiding the allergens.

Implementation:

The Aims of the Anaphylaxis Management Policy are:

- a) To comply with Ministerial Order 706.
- b) To comply with all guidelines related to anaphylaxis management in schools as published and amended from time to time.
- c) Ensure effective and appropriate information about the development, implementation, monitoring and regular review of Individual Anaphylaxis Risk Minimisation Plans, which include an individual ASCIA Action Plan for Anaphylaxis as well as ASCIA Action Plan for Allergic Reactions;
- d) College's Anaphylaxis Management Program to include:
 - Prevention strategies.
 - College management and emergency response procedures.
 - The purchase of adrenaline autoinjectors for general use.
 - A communication plan.
 - Training of College staff.
 - Completion of a College anaphylaxis management checklist.

Individual Anaphylaxis Risk Minimisation Plans;

When a student with the risk of an anaphylactic episode enrolls, and prior to that student attending, the College will ensure that the Principal of Shepparton Christian College will be responsible for ensuring that an Individual Anaphylaxis Risk Minimisation Plans is developed, in consultation with the student's parents, for any student who has been diagnosed by a medical practitioner as having a medical condition that relates to allergy and the potential for anaphylactic reaction, where the College has been notified of that diagnosis.

The Individual Anaphylaxis Risk Minimisation Plans will be in place as soon as practicable after the student enrolls, and where possible before their first day of College.

The Individual Anaphylaxis Risk Minimisation Plans will set out the following:

- a) 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);
- b) Strategies to minimise the risk of exposure to known and notified allergens while the student is under the care or supervision of College 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 College.
- c) The name of the person(s) responsible for implementing the strategies;
- d) Information on where the student's medication will be stored;
- e) The student's emergency contact details; and
- f) an ASCIA Action Plan.
- g) College Staff will then implement and be aware of any changes to the student's Individual Anaphylaxis Risk Minimisation Plan.
- h) The student's Individual Anaphylaxis Risk Minimisation 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.
 - 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 College (eg. class parties, elective subjects, cultural days, fetes, incursions).
- i) It is the responsibility of the Parents to:
 - provide the ASCIA Action Plan.
 - inform the College 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 College and when it is reviewed.
 - Provide the College with an Adrenaline Autoinjector that is current and not expired and any specific medication for their child.

Prevention Strategies

- a) This school will put in place risk minimisation and prevention strategies for all relevant in-school and out-of-school settings. These strategies include (but are not limited to) the following:
 - Restricting specific food allergens.
 - Requiring food prepared onsite to be free from known allergens.
 - Reinforcing rules about not sharing foods provided from home.
 - Informing the College community about anaphylaxis via the newsletter.
 - Keeping the lawns well mown, ensuring children always wear shoes.
- b) Risk minimisation strategies are required for all school activities where a student is known to have anaphylaxis or allergies which may have reactions.

School Management and Emergency Response

- a) The response will be based on medical information contained within the Action Plan, provided at the time of Registration and annual updates. The Adrenaline autoinjectors will only be administered by a staff member with appropriate training.

- b) Student Action Plans are in each home group folders, staff room, staff offices, First aid, Home Economic and Science room. Student ASCIA Action Plans are carried in the medical information of staff supervising off campus activities in the individual students medical pack.
- c) Adrenaline autoinjectors are located in the first aid room, also one is required to be in the First Aid kit carried by supervisors of off-campus activities, and by the individual secondary level students.

Adrenaline Autoinjectors for General Use

- a) The Principal is responsible for arranging for the purchase of additional adrenaline autoinjector(s) for general use and as a back up to those supplied by parents.
- b) The Principal will determine the number and type of adrenaline autoinjector(s) for general use to purchase and in doing so consider all of the following:
 - The number of students enrolled at the College that have been diagnosed with a medical condition that relates to allergy and the potential for anaphylactic reaction.
 - The accessibility of adrenaline autoinjectors that have been provided by parents.
 - The availability of a sufficient supply of adrenaline autoinjectors for general use in specified locations at the College, including in the school yard, and at excursions, camps and special events conducted, organised or attended by the school.
 - The Adrenaline Autoinjectors for General Use have a limited life, usually expiring within 12-18 months, and will need to be replaced at the College's expense, either at the time of use or expiry, whichever is first.

Communication Plan

- a) The Principal will ensure that information is provided to all College staff, students and parents about anaphylaxis and the College's anaphylaxis management policy. This will include hardcopies of ASCIA Action Plan for each teacher (including CRT Information folders) of a student with a known anaphylaxis reaction; ensuring information is included on medical reports carried by supervisors of excursions and camps.
- b) Strategies for advising College staff, students and parents about how to respond to an anaphylactic reaction includes;
 - During normal College activities including in the classroom, and College grounds, in all College buildings and sites including gymnasiums.
 - During off-site or out of College activities, including on excursions, camps and at special events conducted, organised or attended by the College.
- c) Procedures to inform volunteers and casual relief staff of students with a medical condition that relates to allergy and the potential for anaphylactic reaction and their role in responding to an anaphylactic reaction of a student in their care.
- d) That the principal will ensure that the College staff are:
 - Trained.
 - Briefed at least twice per calendar year.
 - The Anaphylaxis Management Policy will be made available on the College website.

Staff Training

- a) The Principal will ensure that College staff are trained in accordance with Ministerial Order 706.
- b) All staff have successfully completed an anaphylaxis management training course in the three years prior.
- c) Participate in a briefing, to occur twice per calendar year with the first one to be held at the beginning of the College year, by a member of College staff who has successfully completed an anaphylaxis management training course in the 12 months prior, on:
 - The College's anaphylaxis management policy.
 - The causes, symptoms and treatment of anaphylaxis.
 - The identities of students 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 College's general first aid and emergency response procedures.
- d) The Principal will ensure that while the student is under the care or supervision of the College, including excursions, yard duty, camps and special event days, there is a sufficient number of School Staff present who have successfully completed an Anaphylaxis Management Training Course in the three years prior.

Annual Risk Management Checklist

- The Principal will complete an annual Risk Management Checklist as published by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development to monitor compliance with their obligations.

Evaluation:

- This policy will be reviewed annually.

In developing the above policy the College Council has aligned these procedures to the Vision and Mission Statements.

This policy was adopted at College Council in