



# Woodport Public School Procedures for Anaphylaxis

*Anaphylaxis Procedures for Schools* have been developed to assist school staff to support students at risk of an anaphylactic reaction.

## What is anaphylaxis?

### *Anaphylaxis*

All students have the right to a safe learning environment, including those with severe allergies. Anaphylaxis is a severe and sudden allergic reaction that is potentially life threatening and always requires an emergency response. Common allergens that can trigger anaphylaxis include:

- Foods (e.g. peanuts and other nuts, shellfish and fish, milk and eggs)
- Insect stings (e.g. bee, wasp, jack jumper ants)
- Medications (e.g. antibiotics, aspirin, non-steroidal anti-inflammatories)
- Latex (e.g. rubber gloves, balloons, swimming caps)

## Providing support to students at risk of anaphylaxis

At Woodport Public School, this policy guides the actions of school staff, parents/carers and students of the school community by:

1. Raising awareness of anaphylaxis
2. Educating the school community about avoidance strategies and measures
3. Outlining the actions taken to reduce risks in the school environment for students at risk of anaphylaxis

This policy has been developed from *Anaphylaxis Guidelines for Schools 2006*, Anaphylaxis Australia Inc, NSW Department of Education WHS Directorate and should be implemented in conjunction with its support documents.

### 1. School Responsibilities

- On enrolment, or for an already enrolled student, follow the NSW DoE WHS *Anaphylaxis Key Steps*, *Anaphylaxis checklist for workplace managers* and *Managing Anaphylaxis at School Flow Chart* if an allergy is indicated.
- Establish a partnership between the parent and the school to share information and clarify expectations.
- Obtain from parent signed ASCIA form and develop Individual Health Care Plan.
- Ensure that ASCIA plan is communicated to staff and displayed and available appropriately – sick bay, classroom teacher's program, casual teachers' folders, playground folders and student record card.
- Make every reasonable effort to minimise the exposure of a student who is at risk of anaphylaxis to known allergens within the school environment and during school related activities
- Inform the school community of the anaphylaxis policy and procedure.
- Ensure students at risk of anaphylaxis are not excluded from school activities because of their allergies.
- Conduct risk assessments and implement risk management plans and minimisation measures.
- Ensure school staff have anaphylaxis training.
- Ensure teaching strategies are used to raise awareness of all children about anaphylaxis and the school's risk minimisation measures.

- Communicate to the whole school community to better understand how to provide a safe and supportive environment for all students.

## 2. Parent/Carer Responsibilities

- Notify the school about your child's risk of anaphylactic reaction on enrolment, or if already enrolled, as soon after diagnosis as possible, and if the child's health needs change.
- Provide the school with an up to date Anaphylaxis Action Plan with medication prescribed by the treating medical officer documented and signed. This should include details of the prescribed medications such as antihistamines and adrenaline (EpiPen). This is recommended on an annual basis at least.
- Supply necessary medication in an insulated container and ensure it is clearly labelled and kept up to date.
- Work with school staff to plan ahead for special events like excursions, birthday celebrations, classroom activities, outdoor activities and to develop individual health care plans.
- Provide the school with current information about emergency contacts.

## 3. Student Responsibilities that are age and developmentally appropriate.

- Avoid sharing food or eating foods not brought from home or the school canteen.
- Feel safe to report feeling at risk of an allergic reaction or the subject of bullying.
- To alert other students to the need to immediately inform a teacher if they become aware a classmate has come into contact with an allergen or is unwell.

Woodport Public observes NSW Department of Education policies. The procedures outlined in this document align with expectations stated in:

- Anaphylaxis Procedures for Schools 2012  
<http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/media/downloads/schoolsweb/studentsupport/studenthealth/conditions/anaphylaxis/guidelines/anaphylaxis-procedures.pdf>
- The Wellbeing Framework for Schools  
[https://www.det.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/about/16531\\_Wellbeing-Framework-for-schools\\_Accessible.pdf](https://www.det.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/about/16531_Wellbeing-Framework-for-schools_Accessible.pdf)
- Behaviour Code for Students  
<https://education.nsw.gov.au/policy-library/associated-documents/behaviourcode.pdf>
- School Excellence Framework  
<https://education.nsw.gov.au/policy-library/associated-documents/framework.pdf>