

Title	Anaphylactic Management Policy
Rationale	To explain to Dromana College parents, carers, staff and students the processes and procedures in place to support students diagnosed as being at risk of suffering from anaphylaxis. This policy also ensures that Dromana College is compliant with Ministerial Order 706 and the Department's guidelines for anaphylaxis management.
Aim	To provide students, staff and the community of the dimensions of student Care, Safety and Welfare programs, policies and procedures at Dromana College in relation to anaphylaxis management including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual anaphylaxis management plans • Prevention strategies including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anaphylaxis eLearning for all staff • Epiclub - anaphylaxis database • Storage of Adrenaline Auto injectors and Review • School management and Emergency response • Raising student, staff and Community awareness of anaphylaxis • Annual Risk Management Checklist

Policy Implementation and Process	
Purpose	To provide effective learning for all students
Mission	Empowering young people to make a difference

Values	Responsibility	Respect	Integrity	Personal Best
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Vision Statement
Dromana College encourages and celebrates personal improvement. We recognise and respond to diverse student needs. We set high expectations for all students and have a strong focus on academic achievement and the pursuit of personal excellence. We encourage and support creativity, innovation and initiative for young people by helping them to reach their aspirations in different fields of life. We provide high quality teaching and a safe and caring school environment

POLICY

School Statement

Dromana College will fully comply with Ministerial Order 706 and the associated guidelines published by the Department of Education and Training.

SCOPE

This policy applies to:

- all staff, including casual relief staff and volunteers
- all students who have been diagnosed with anaphylaxis, or who may require emergency treatment for an anaphylactic reaction, and their parents and carers.

Anaphylaxis

Anaphylaxis is a severe allergic reaction that occurs after exposure to an allergen. The most common allergens for school-aged children are nuts, eggs, cow's milk, fish, shellfish, wheat, soy, sesame, latex, certain insect stings and medication.

Symptoms

Signs and symptoms of a mild to moderate allergic reaction can include:

- swelling of the lips, face and eyes
- hives or welts
- tingling in the mouth.

Signs and symptoms of anaphylaxis, a severe allergic reaction, can include:

- difficult/noisy breathing
- swelling of tongue
- difficulty talking and/or hoarse voice
- wheeze or persistent cough
- persistent dizziness or collapse
- student appears pale or floppy

- abdominal pain and/or vomiting.

Symptoms usually develop within ten minutes and up to two hours after exposure to an allergen, but can appear within a few minutes.

Treatment

Adrenaline given as an injection into the muscle of the outer mid-thigh is the first aid treatment for anaphylaxis.

Individuals diagnosed as being at risk of anaphylaxis are prescribed an adrenaline autoinjector for use in an emergency. These adrenaline autoinjectors are designed so that anyone can use them in an emergency.

Individual Anaphylaxis Management Plans

All students at Dromana College who are diagnosed by a medical practitioner as being at risk of suffering from an anaphylactic reaction must have an Individual Anaphylaxis Management Plan. When notified of an anaphylaxis diagnosis, the principal of Dromana College is responsible for developing a plan in consultation with the student's parents/carers.

Where necessary, an Individual Anaphylaxis Management Plan will be in place as soon as practicable after a student enrolls at Dromana College and where possible, before the student's first day.

Parents and carers must:

- obtain an ASCIA Action Plan for Anaphylaxis from the student's medical practitioner and provide a copy to the school as soon as practicable
- immediately inform the school in writing if there is a relevant change in the student's medical condition and obtain an updated ASCIA Action Plan for Anaphylaxis
- provide an up-to-date photo of the student for the ASCIA Action Plan for Anaphylaxis when that Plan is provided to the school and each time it is reviewed
- provide the school with a current adrenaline autoinjector for the student that has not expired;
- participate in annual reviews of the student's Plan.

Each student's Individual Anaphylaxis Management Plan must include:

- information about the student's medical condition that relates to allergies and the potential for anaphylactic reaction, including the type of allergies the student has
- information about the signs or symptoms the student might exhibit in the event of an allergic reaction based on a written diagnosis from a medical practitioner
- strategies to minimise the risk of exposure to known allergens while the student is under the care or supervision of school staff, including in the school yard, at camps and excursions, or at special events conducted, organised or attended by the school
- the name of the person(s) responsible for implementing the risk minimisation strategies, which have been identified in the Plan
- information about where the student's medication will be stored
- the student's emergency contact details
- an up-to-date ASCIA Action Plan for Anaphylaxis completed by the student's medical practitioner.

Review and updates to Individual Anaphylaxis Management Plans

A student's Individual Anaphylaxis Management Plan will be reviewed and updated on an annual basis in consultation with the student's parents/carers. The College is also using the "Epiclub" software program which automatically stimulates an email/sms message alert to parents /careers and First Aid, advising that the AutoInjector needs to be replaced by parents/carers. The plan will also be reviewed and, where necessary, updated in the following circumstances:

- as soon as practicable after the student has an anaphylactic reaction at school
- if the student's medical condition, insofar as it relates to allergy and the potential for anaphylactic reaction, changes
- when the student is participating in an off-site activity, including camps and excursions, or at special events including fetes and concerts.

Our school may also consider updating a student's Individual Anaphylaxis Management Plan if there is an identified and significant increase in the student's potential risk of exposure to allergens at school.

Prevention Strategies

Anaphylaxis is the most severe form of allergic reaction and is potentially life threatening. Anaphylaxis should be treated as a medical emergency, requiring immediate treatment. Anaphylaxis occurs after exposure to an allergen (usually to

foods, insect stings or medicines), to which a person is already extremely sensitive. It results in potentially life threatening symptoms.

Section 4.3.1(6)(c) of the Act applies to all Victorian Schools (government, Catholic and independent), and prescribes the circumstances under which a School is required to have a School Anaphylaxis Management Policy containing the matters required by the Order. Under the Order, a School's Policy must include prevention strategies used by the School to minimise the risk of an anaphylactic reaction. Dromana College and College Staff are reminded that they have a duty of care to take reasonable steps to protect a student in their care from risks of injury that are reasonably foreseeable. The development and implementation of appropriate prevention strategies to minimise the risk of incidents of anaphylaxis is an important step to be undertaken by College Staff when trying to satisfy this duty of care.

Classrooms

1. Liaise with Parents about food-related activities ahead of time.
2. Use non-food treats where possible, but if food treats are used in class it is recommended that Parents of students with food allergy provide a treat box with alternative treats. Treat boxes should be clearly labelled and only handled by the student.
3. Never give food from outside sources to a student who is at risk of anaphylaxis.
4. Be aware of the possibility of hidden allergens in food and other substances used in cooking, food technology, science and art classes (e.g. egg or milk cartons, empty peanut butter jars).
5. Ensure all cooking utensils, preparation dishes, plates, and knives and forks etc are washed and cleaned thoroughly after preparation of food and cooking.
6. Have regular discussions with students about the importance of washing hands, eating their own food and not sharing food.

Canteens

1. Canteen staff (whether internal or external) should be able to demonstrate satisfactory training in food allergen management and its implications on food-handling practices, including knowledge of the major food allergens triggering anaphylaxis, cross-contamination issues specific to food allergy, label reading, etc.
2. Make sure that tables and surfaces are wiped down with warm soapy water regularly.
3. Food banning is not generally recommended. Instead, a 'no-sharing' with the students with food allergy approach is recommended for food, utensils and food containers.
4. Be wary of contamination of other foods when preparing, handling or displaying food. For example, a tiny amount of butter or peanut butter left on a knife and used elsewhere may be enough to cause a severe reaction in someone who is at risk of anaphylaxis from cow's milk products or peanuts.

School Yard

1. School Staff on yard duty must be trained in the administration of the Adrenaline Auto injector (i.e. EpiPen®) to be able to respond quickly to an anaphylactic reaction if needed.
2. The Adrenaline Auto injector and each student's Individual Anaphylaxis Management Plan are easily accessible from the yard, and staff should be aware of their exact location.
3. Schools must have a Communication Plan in place so the student's medical information and medication can be retrieved quickly if a reaction occurs in the yard. All staff on yard duty must be aware of the School's Emergency Response Procedures and how to notify the general office/first aid team of an anaphylactic reaction in the yard.
4. Students with anaphylactic responses to insects should be encouraged to stay away from water or flowering plants. School Staff should liaise with Parents to encourage students to wear light or dark rather than bright colours, as well as closed shoes and long-sleeved garments when outdoors.
5. Keep lawns and clover mowed and outdoor bins covered.
6. Students should keep drinks and food covered while outdoors.

Special Events (e.g. sporting events, incursions, class parties, etc.)

1. If a School has a student at risk of anaphylaxis, sufficient School Staff supervising the special event must be trained in the administration of an Adrenaline Auto injector to be able to respond quickly to an anaphylactic reaction if required.
2. For special occasions, School Staff should consult Parents in advance to either develop an alternative food menu or request the Parents to send a meal for the student.
3. Parents of other students should be informed in advance about foods that may cause allergic reactions in students at risk of anaphylaxis and request that they avoid providing students with treats whilst they are at School or at a special School event.
4. Party balloons should not be used if any student is allergic to latex.

Travel to and from School by Bus

1. Parents of students at risk of anaphylaxis should consult with School Staff and the bus service provider to ensure that appropriate risk minimisation and prevention strategies and processes are in place to address an anaphylactic reaction should it occur on the way to and from School on the bus. This includes the availability and administration of an Adrenaline Auto injector. The Adrenaline Auto injector and ASCIA Action Plan for Anaphylaxis must be with the student even if this child is deemed too young to carry an Adrenaline Auto injector on their person at School.

Field trips/excursions/sporting events

1. If a School has a student at risk of anaphylaxis, sufficient School Staff supervising the special event must be trained in the administration of an Adrenaline Auto injector and be able to respond quickly to an anaphylactic reaction if required.
2. A School Staff member or team of School Staff trained in the recognition of anaphylaxis and the administration of the Adrenaline Auto injector must accompany any student at risk of anaphylaxis on field trips or excursions.
3. School Staff should avoid using food in activities or games, including as rewards.
4. The Adrenaline Auto injector and a copy of the Individual Anaphylaxis Management Plan for each student at risk of anaphylaxis should be easily accessible and School Staff must be aware of their exact location.
5. For each field trip, excursion etc, a risk assessment should be undertaken for each individual student attending who is at risk of anaphylaxis. The risks may vary according to the number of anaphylactic students attending, the nature of the excursion/sporting event, size of venue, distance from medical assistance, the structure of excursion and corresponding staff-student ratio.

All School Staff members present during the field trip or excursion need to be aware of the identity of any students attending who are at risk of anaphylaxis and be able to identify them by face.

6. Parents of students at risk of anaphylaxis should consult with School Staff in advance to discuss issues that may arise; to develop an alternative food menu; or request the Parents provide a meal (if required).
7. Parents may wish to accompany their child on field trips and/or excursions. This should be discussed with Parents as another strategy for supporting the student who is at risk of anaphylaxis.
8. Prior to the excursion taking place the student's Parents and Medical Practitioner (if necessary) should consult with School Staff to review the student's Individual Anaphylaxis Management Plan to ensure that it is up to date and relevant to the particular excursion activity.

Camps and Remote Settings

1. Prior to engaging a camp owner/operators services the School should make enquiries as to whether it can provide food that is safe for anaphylactic students. If a camp owner/operator cannot provide this confirmation to the School, then the School should consider using an alternative service provider.
2. The camp cook should be able to demonstrate satisfactory training in food allergen management and its implications on food-handling practices, including knowledge of the major food allergens triggering anaphylaxis, cross-contamination issues specific to food allergy, label reading, etc.
3. Schools must not sign any written disclaimer or statement from a camp owner/operator that indicates that the owner/operator is unable to provide food which is safe for students at risk of anaphylaxis. Schools have a duty of care to protect students in their care from reasonably foreseeable injury and this duty cannot be delegated to any third party.
4. Schools should conduct a risk assessment and develop a risk management strategy for students at risk of anaphylaxis. This should be developed in consultation with Parents of students at risk of anaphylaxis and camp owners/operators prior to the camp dates.
5. Parents of students at risk of anaphylaxis should consult with School Staff and the camp owner/operator to ensure that appropriate risk minimisation and prevention strategies and processes are in place to address an anaphylactic reaction should it occur. If these procedures are deemed to be inadequate, further discussions, planning and implementation will need to be undertaken.
6. If the School has concerns about whether the food provided on a camp will be safe for students at risk of anaphylaxis, it should also consider alternative means for providing food for those students.
7. Use of substances containing allergens should be avoided where possible.
8. Camps should avoid stocking peanut or tree nut products, including nut spreads. Products that 'may contain' traces of nuts may be served, but not to students who are known to be allergic to nuts.
9. The student's Adrenaline Auto injectors (x2), Individual Anaphylaxis Management Plan, including the ASCIA Action Plan for Anaphylaxis and a mobile phone must be taken on camp. If mobile phone access is not available, an alternative method of communication in an emergency must be considered, e.g. a satellite phone.
10. Prior to the camp taking place the student's Parents should consult with School Staff to review the student's Individual Anaphylaxis Management Plan to ensure that it is up to date and relevant to the circumstances of the particular camp.

11. School Staff participating in the camp should be clear about their roles and responsibilities in the event of an anaphylactic reaction. Check the emergency response procedures that the camp provider has in place. Ensure that these are sufficient in the event of an anaphylactic reaction and ensure all School Staff participating in the camp are clear about their roles and responsibilities.
12. Contact local emergency services and hospitals well prior to the camp. Advise full medical conditions of students at risk, location of camp and location of any off camp activities. Ensure contact details of emergency services are distributed to all School Staff as part of the emergency response procedures developed for the camp.
13. Schools should take an Adrenaline Auto injector for General Use on a school camp, even if there is no student at risk of anaphylaxis, as a backup device in the event of an emergency.
14. Schools should purchase an Adrenaline Auto injector for General Use to be kept in the first aid kit and including this as part of the Emergency Response Procedures.
15. The Adrenaline Auto injector should remain close to the student and School Staff must be aware of its location at all times.
16. The Adrenaline Auto injector should be carried in the school first aid kit; however, Schools can consider allowing students, particularly adolescents, to carry their Adrenaline Auto injector on camp. Remember that all School Staff members still have a duty of care towards the student even if they do carry their own Adrenaline Auto injector.
17. Students with anaphylactic responses to insects should always wear closed shoes and long-sleeved garments when outdoors and should be encouraged to stay away from water or flowering plants.
18. Cooking and art and craft games should not involve the use of known allergens.
19. Consider the potential exposure to allergens when consuming food on buses and in cabins.

Overseas Travel

1. Review and consider the strategies listed under “Field Trips/Excursions/Sporting Events” and “Camps and Remote Settings”. Where an excursion or camp is occurring overseas, Schools should involve Parents in discussions regarding risk management well in advance.

Investigate the potential risks at all stages of the overseas travel such as:

- travel to and from the airport/port;
- travel to and from Australia (via aeroplane, ship etc);
- various accommodation venues;
- all towns and other locations to be visited;
- sourcing safe foods at all of these locations; and
- risks of cross contamination, including -
 - exposure to the foods of the other students;
 - hidden allergens in foods;
 - whether the table and surfaces that the student may use will be adequate cleaned to prevent a reaction; and
 - whether the other students will wash their hands when handling food.

Assess where each of these risks can be managed using minimisation strategies such as the following:

- Translation of the student’s Individual Anaphylaxis Management Plan and ASCIA Action Plan;
- Sourcing of safe foods at all stages;
- Obtaining the names, address and contact details of the nearest hospital and Medical Practitioners at each location that may be visited;
- Obtaining emergency contact details; and
- Sourcing the ability to purchase additional auto injectors.

Record details of travel insurance, including contact details for the insurer. Determine how any costs associated with medication, treatment and/or alteration to the travel plans as a result of an anaphylactic reaction can be paid.

Plan for appropriate supervision of students at risk of anaphylaxis at all times, including that:

- There are sufficient School Staff attending the excursion who have been trained in accordance with current regulations;
- There is an appropriate level of supervision of anaphylactic students throughout the trip, particularly at times when they are taking medication and eating food;
- There will be capacity for adequate supervision of any affected student(s) requiring medical treatment, and that adequate supervision of other students will be available; and
- Staff/student ratios should be maintained during the trip, including in the event of an emergency where the students may need to be separated.

The School should re-assess its Emergency Response Procedures, and if necessary adapt it to the particular circumstances of the overseas trip. Keep a record of relevant information such as the following:

- dates of travel;
- name of airline, and relevant contact details;
- itinerary detailing the proposed destinations, flight information and the duration of the stay in each location;
- hotel addresses and telephone numbers;
- proposed means of travel within the overseas country;
- list of students and each of their medical conditions, medication and other treatment (if any);
- emergency contact details of hospitals, ambulances, and Medical Practitioners in each location;
- details of travel insurance
- plans to respond to any foreseeable emergency including who will be responsible for the implementation of each part of the plans;
- possession of a mobile phone or other communication device that would enable the School Staff to contact
- emergency services in the overseas country if assistance is required.

Work Experience

1. Dromana College will involve Parents, the student and the employer in discussions regarding risk management prior to a student at risk of anaphylaxis attending work experience. Staff must be shown the ASCIA Action Plan for Anaphylaxis and how to use the Adrenaline Auto injector in case the work experience student shows signs of an allergic reaction whilst at work experience.

It is important to note that it is not recommended that banning of food or other products is used as a risk minimisation and prevention strategy. The reasons for this are as follows:

- It can create complacency among staff and students;
- It does not eliminate the presence of hidden allergens; and

It is difficult to “ban” all triggers (allergens) because these are not necessarily limited to peanuts and nuts. Triggers and common allergens can also include eggs, dairy, soy, wheat, sesame, seeds, fish and shellfish.

Location of plans and adrenaline autoinjectors

A copy of each student’s Individual Anaphylaxis Management Plan will be stored with their ASCIA Action Plan for Anaphylaxis at the Main Administration Office and the Year 7 Sub-school in J04, together with the student’s adrenaline autoinjector. Adrenaline autoinjectors are labelled with the student’s name.

For students who keep their adrenaline autoinjectors on their person:

A copy of each student’s Individual Anaphylaxis Management Plan will be stored with their ASCIA Action Plan for Anaphylaxis in the Main Staffroom. Students are encouraged to keep their adrenaline autoinjectors on their person. Adrenaline autoinjectors for general use are available at the Main Administration Office, the Year 7 Sub-school in J04 and the Year 8 area in Room 12, they are labelled “SPARE”.

For students who keep their adrenaline autoinjectors on their person and others store them elsewhere:

A copy of each student’s Individual Anaphylaxis Management Plan will be stored with their ASCIA Action Plan for Anaphylaxis at First Aid. Whilst some students keep their adrenaline autoinjector on their person, medication for those that do not will be stored and labelled with their name at the Main Administration Office, the Year 7 Sub-school in J04 and the Year 8 area in Room 12, together with adrenaline autoinjectors for general use.

Depending on the age of the students in your school community who are at risk of anaphylaxis, the severity of their allergies and the content of their plan, some students may keep their adrenaline autoinjector on their person, rather than in a designated location. It may also be appropriate to keep copies of the plans in various locations around the school so that the plan is easily accessible by school staff in the event of an incident.

Risk Minimisation Strategies

Dromana College will put in place risk minimisation strategies to reduce the possibility of a student suffering from an anaphylactic reaction at school.

To reduce the risk of a student suffering from an anaphylactic reaction at Dromana College, we have put in place the following strategies:

- staff and students are regularly reminded to wash their hands after eating;
- students are discouraged from sharing food
- garbage bins at school are to remain covered with lids to reduce the risk of attracting insects
- gloves must be worn when picking up papers or rubbish in the playground;

- school canteen staff are trained in appropriate food handling to reduce the risk of cross-contamination
- year groups will be informed of allergens that must be avoided in advance of class parties, events or birthdays
- a general use EpiPen will be stored at the Main Administration Office, First Aid, Food Room (Rm 2), O block Office (Room 09), J Block office (Room JSO) and the Middle School Office (Rm MSO).
- First Aid Planning for off-site activities which include risk minimisation strategies for students at risk of anaphylaxis including supervision requirements, appropriate number of trained staff, emergency response procedures and other risk controls appropriate to the activity and students attending.

Adrenaline autoinjectors for general use

Dromana College will maintain a supply of adrenaline autoinjector(s) for general use, as a back-ups labelled “SPARE” to those provided by parents and carers for specific students, and also for students who may suffer from a first time reaction at school.

Adrenaline autoinjectors for general use will be stored at Main Administration Office, First Aid, Food Room (Rm 2), O block Office (Room 09), J Block office (Room JSO) and the Middle School Office (Rm MSO) and labelled “SPARE”.

The Principal will delegate to the First Aid Officer the responsibility for arranging the purchase of adrenaline autoinjectors for general use, and will consider:

- the number of students enrolled at Dromana College at risk of anaphylaxis
- the accessibility of adrenaline autoinjectors supplied by parents
- the availability of a sufficient supply of autoinjectors for general use in different locations at the school, as well as at camps, excursions and events
- the limited life span of adrenaline autoinjectors, and the need for general use adrenaline autoinjectors to be replaced when used or prior to expiry.

Emergency Response

In the event of an anaphylactic reaction, the emergency response procedures in this policy must be followed, together with the school’s general first aid procedures, emergency response procedures and the student’s Individual Anaphylaxis Management Plan.

A complete and up-to-date list of students identified as being at risk of anaphylaxis is maintained by First Aid Officer Kylie Handley and stored at First Aid. For camps, excursions and special events, a designated staff member will be responsible for maintaining a list of students at risk of anaphylaxis attending the special event, together with their Individual Anaphylaxis Management Plans and adrenaline autoinjectors, where appropriate.

If a student experiences an anaphylactic reaction at school or during a school activity, school staff must:

Step	Action
1.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lay the person flat • Do not allow them to stand or walk • If breathing is difficult, allow them to sit • Be calm and reassuring • Do not leave them alone • Seek assistance from another staff member or reliable student to locate the student’s adrenaline autoinjector or the school’s general use autoinjector, and the student’s Individual Anaphylaxis Management Plan, stored at First Aid for Year 8 to 12 students or for Year 7 students in JSO, • If the student’s plan is not immediately available, or they appear to be experiencing a first time reaction, follow steps 2 to 5
2.	<p>Administer an EpiPen or EpiPen Jr (if the student is under 20kg)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove from plastic container • Form a fist around the EpiPen and pull off the blue safety release (cap) • Place orange end against the student’s outer mid-thigh (with or without clothing) • Push down hard until a click is heard or felt and hold in place for 3 seconds • Remove EpiPen • Note the time the EpiPen is administered • Retain the used EpiPen to be handed to ambulance paramedics along with the time of administration
3.	Call an ambulance (000)

4.	If there is no improvement or severe symptoms progress (as described in the ASCIA Action Plan for Anaphylaxis), further adrenaline doses may be administered every five minutes, if other adrenaline autoinjectors are available.
5.	Contact the student's emergency contacts.

If a student appears to be having a severe allergic reaction, but has not been previously diagnosed with an allergy or being at risk of anaphylaxis, school staff should follow steps 2 – 5 as above.

Note: If in doubt, it is better to use an adrenaline autoinjector than not use it, even if in hindsight the reaction is not anaphylaxis. Under-treatment of anaphylaxis is more harmful and potentially life threatening than over-treatment of a mild to moderate allergic reaction. Refer to page 41 of the [Anaphylaxis Guidelines](#).

Communication Plan

This policy will be available on Dromana College's website so that parents and other members of the school community can easily access information about Dromana College's anaphylaxis management procedures. The parents and carers of students who are enrolled at Dromana College and are identified as being at risk of anaphylaxis will also be provided with a copy of this policy.

The Principal will delegate to the First Aid Officer the responsibility for ensuring that all relevant staff, including casual relief staff and volunteers are aware of this policy and Dromana College's procedures for anaphylaxis management as outlined in the Induction Pack. Casual relief staff and volunteers who are responsible for the care and/or supervision of students who are identified as being at risk of anaphylaxis will also receive a verbal briefing on this policy, their role in responding to an anaphylactic reaction and where required, the identity of students at risk.

The Principal will delegate to the First Aid Officer the responsibility for ensuring relevant staff are trained and briefed in anaphylaxis management, consistent with the Department's *Anaphylaxis Guidelines*.

Staff training

The Principal will delegate to the First Aid Officer the responsibility to ensure that the school staff are appropriately trained in anaphylaxis management:

Staff who are required to undertake training must have completed:

- an approved face-to-face anaphylaxis management training course in the last three years, or
- an approved online anaphylaxis management training course in the last two years.

Dromana College uses the following training course: ASCIA Anaphylaxis eTraining course Vic 6, with verifying the correct use of Adrenaline Auto Injector Devices 22303 VIC

Staff are also required to attend a briefing on anaphylaxis management and this policy at least twice per year (with the first briefing to be held at the beginning of the school year), facilitated by a staff member who has successfully completed an anaphylaxis management course within the last 2 years including the School Anaphylaxis Supervisor. Each briefing will address:

- this policy
- the causes, symptoms and treatment of anaphylaxis
- the identities of students with a medical condition that relates to allergies and the potential for anaphylactic reaction, and where their medication is located
- how to use an adrenaline autoinjector, including hands on practice with a trainer adrenaline autoinjector
- the school's general first aid and emergency response procedures
- the location of, and access to, adrenaline autoinjectors that have been provided by parents or purchased by the school for general use.

When a new student enrolls at Dromana College who is at risk of anaphylaxis, the Principal will delegate to the First Aid Officer the responsibility to develop an interim plan in consultation with the student's parents and ensure that appropriate staff are trained and briefed as soon as possible.

The principal will ensure that while students at risk of anaphylaxis are under the care or supervision of the school outside of normal class activities, including in the school yard, at camps and excursions, or at special event days, there is a sufficient number of school staff present who have been trained in anaphylaxis management.

Raising staff awareness

All Dromana College staff members are to have completed the “Management of Anaphylaxis Course” and all staff are to be briefed twice yearly on the management of anaphylaxis and responding to an anaphylactic emergency, including briefing on the Anaphylaxis Management Policy. It is recommended that the college first aid officer/anaphylactic response team member, be responsible for briefing all volunteers and casual relief staff, and new School Staff (including administration and office staff, sessional teachers, specialist teachers) of the above information and their role in responding to an anaphylactic reaction by a student in their care.

Raising student awareness

Peer support is an important element of support for students at risk of anaphylaxis.

School Staff can raise awareness in School through fact sheets or posters displayed in hallways, canteens and classrooms. Class teachers can discuss the topic with students in class, with a few simple key messages, outlined in the following:

Student messages about anaphylaxis

1. Always take food allergies seriously – severe allergies are no joke.
2. Don't share your food with friends who have food allergies.
3. Wash your hands after eating.
4. Know what your friends are allergic to.
5. If a school friend becomes sick, get help immediately even if the friend does not want to.
6. Be respectful of a school friends Adrenaline Auto injector.
7. Don't pressure your friends to eat food that they are allergic to.

It is important to be aware that a student at risk of anaphylaxis may not want to be singled out or be seen to be treated differently. Also be aware that bullying of students at risk of anaphylaxis can occur in the form of teasing, tricking a student into eating a particular food or threatening a student with the substance that they are allergic to, such as peanuts. Talk to the students involved so they are aware of the seriousness of an anaphylactic reaction. Any attempt to harm a student diagnosed at risk of anaphylaxis must be treated as a serious and dangerous incident and dealt with in line with the School's anti-bullying policy.

Work with Parents

Dromana College is aware that Parents of a child who is at risk of anaphylaxis may experience considerable anxiety about sending their child to School. It is important to develop an open and cooperative relationship with them so that they can feel confident that appropriate management strategies are in place.

Aside from implementing practical prevention strategies in Schools, the anxiety that Parents and students may feel can be considerably reduced by regular communication and increased education, awareness and support from the school community.

Raising school community awareness

Dromana College is encouraged to raise awareness about anaphylaxis in the school community so that there is an increased understanding of the condition. This can be done by providing information in the school newsletter.

Training and Briefing Requirements

- All Dromana College staff must have successfully completed an Anaphylaxis Management Training Course in the previous two years and participate in a briefing, to occur twice each calendar year, with the first briefing to be held at the beginning of the 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 Auto injector, including hands on practise with a trainer Adrenaline Auto injector;
 - the School's general first aid and emergency response procedures; and
 - the location of, and access to, Adrenaline Auto injectors that have been provided by Parents or purchased by the School for general use.

This briefing must be conducted by a member of the School Staff who has current anaphylaxis training. For the purposes of these Guidelines, and the Order, this means that the member of the School Staff has successfully completed an Anaphylaxis Management Training Course in the previous 12 months.

Staff Training

All Dromana College Staff are to be trained.

To access the ASCIA Anaphylaxis e-training for Victorian Schools go to:

<https://etrainingvic.allergy.org.au/>

Completed by	Course	Provider	Cost	Accreditation
All school staff	ASCIA Anaphylaxis e-training for Victorian Schools followed by a competency check by the School Anaphylaxis Supervisor	ASCIA	Free to all schools	2 years

Competency Check for Online Training Course

At Dromana College the Principal has nominated the First Aid Officer and an Assistant Principal. A key role of the Supervisors will be to undertake competency checks on all staff that have successfully completed the online training course. These competency checks need to be undertaken by the Supervisor within 30 days of a relevant member of the school staff completing the online training course.

To qualify as a School Anaphylaxis Supervisor, the nominated staff member(s) will need to complete an accredited short course that teaches them how to conduct a competency check on those who have completed the online training course

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- School Policy and Advisory Guide:
 - [Anaphylaxis](#)
 - [Anaphylaxis management in schools](#)
- Allergy & Anaphylaxis Australia: [Risk minimisation strategies](#)
- ASCIA Guidelines: [Schooling and childcare](#)
- Royal Children’s Hospital: [Allergy and immunology](#)

Annual Risk Management Checklist

- Under the School Anaphylaxis Management Policy the Principal must complete an annual anaphylaxis Risk Management Checklist to monitor their compliance with the Order, these Guidelines, and their legal obligations.
- Annual Risk Management Checklist

Policy Direction of the School as a Whole	To ensure Dromana College maintains its commitment to a culture of ongoing improvement
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Approved By	Dromana College Council
Date Approved	October 2019
Responsible For Review	College Principal