

ST JOSEPH'S PRIMARY SCHOOL NAMBOUR



FIRST PRESENTED - June 2011
CURRENT AS AT MAY 2019

REVIEW COMPLETED - October 2014

GUIDELINES

Anaphylaxis Response to Allergies

Policy Area Organisation

Rationale

St Joseph's Primary is a caring community which promotes and protects the right to feel safe and secure in all situations. As such the school endeavours to implement the required procedures to ensure the safety of children who suffer from anaphylaxis. These allergic reactions can cause serious health issues and can, in some situations, be fatal. Rapid onset and development of symptoms are characteristic of anaphylaxis. The support of the whole community is required to ensure a safe environment in which our children can learn and play.

Values Community, Stability, Love of Christ & Others

Implementation

To provide a safe environment for those who suffer from anaphylactic reactions, St Joseph's Primary will -

- ensure consideration is given to changes from usual school routine such as the use of relief teachers
- ensure consideration is given to students participating in excursions, camps, and sports carnivals including the provision of full medical information and a student's *Action Plan for Anaphylaxis* (personal or insect allergy) to outside school venues
- ensure consideration is given to the distance from the school, camp or location of a school activity to an ambulance service or medical treatment
- provide information on severe allergic reactions in curriculum
- adopt a 'no sharing of food and drink' policy at school
- promote hand washing before and after eating
- inform other class members' parents of trigger substances and request that these foods are avoided (particularly with early school age students)
- avoid the use of high risk allergens such as peanuts and tree nuts e.g. walnuts, almonds, cashews in curricular activities
- review curriculum materials to ensure that they do not advocate the use of high risk allergens such as peanuts and tree nuts
- be aware that craft items can be risk items (for example, egg cartons, milk containers, peanut butter jars)
- avoid the use of party balloons where latex is a known allergen.
- inform tuckshop staff of students who are medically diagnosed with severe allergy at risk of anaphylaxis and provide written parental consent as to which products students with severe allergic reactions can purchase
- place a copy of the student's *Action Plan for Anaphylaxis* (personal or insect allergy) on the tuckshop wall
- ensure that the promotion of the sale of new foods in the tuckshop, and encouragement given to students to try new foods, is properly supervised. Students with severe allergic reactions should not be given any food without parental consent.
- ensure tuckshop staff are aware of the risk of cross-contamination when preparing foods.

To provide a safe environment for those who suffer from anaphylactic reactions, parents will -

- provide the school with an Action Plan for Anaphylaxis from the treating doctor (reviewed at least annually)
- provide written notification for the school to administer, or assist a student with the administration of a prescribed medication in the management of an anaphylactic reaction
- provide the school with the necessary medication (including two epipens) clearly labelled, stored correctly and replaced when they expire
- in the case of severe allergies, three EpiPens are to be provided to the school, two to be placed in the child's classroom and one at the school office
- provide safe food to enable the child with allergies to participate in activities such as birthday celebrations
- provide drink containers and lunch boxes which are clearly labelled with the name of the child for whom they are intended.
- educate their child about the condition
- educate their child not to share food with other students

References

Anaphylaxis Guidelines for Queensland State Schools (February 2013) http://education.qld.gov.au/schools/healthy/docs/anaphylaxis_guidelines_for_queensland_state_schools.pdf

Appendix

Action Plan for Anaphylaxis

Australasian Society of Clinical Immunology and Allergy

www.allergy.org.au

OH&S Fact Sheet: Information on anaphylaxis for school staff

Brisbane Catholic Education Office