

Anaphylaxis POLICY

Rationale:

Derrimut PS believes that the safety and wellbeing of children who are at risk of anaphylaxis is a whole-of-community responsibility. Derrimut PS is committed to:

- providing, as far as practicable, a safe and healthy environment in which children at risk of anaphylaxis can participate equally in all aspects of the school's experiences.
- raising awareness about allergies and anaphylaxis amongst all community members.
- actively involving the parents/guardians of each child at risk of anaphylaxis in assessing risks, developing risk minimisation strategies and management strategies for their child.
- ensuring each staff member and other relevant adults have adequate knowledge of allergies, anaphylaxis and emergency procedures.
- facilitating communication to ensure the safety and wellbeing of children at risk of anaphylaxis.

Aims:

The aim of this policy is to:

- minimise the risk of an anaphylactic reaction occurring while the child is in the care of the children's service.
- ensure that staff members respond appropriately to an anaphylactic reaction by initiating appropriate treatment, including competently administering an EpiPen[®].
- raise the service community's awareness of anaphylaxis and its management through education and policy implementation.

Implementation:

- All staff to be trained in the administration of EpiPens
- Awareness program for all members of the Derrimut PS community
- Management plans for all students who have anaphylactic reactions
- All epiPens to be clearly labelled and accessible in the first aid room
- Adoption of a no sharing of food policy
- Parents of students who suffer from anaphylaxis will be encouraged to provide a treat box for special occasions
- Classes with students with allergies will send notes home in case of class parties etc.
- Regular review of schools management strategy

Evaluation:

- This policy will be deemed implemented when all students affected have an Anaphylaxis Plan
- The policy and procedures are broadly published and understood in the community
- Any occurrence of an anaphylaxis reaction is promptly and successfully handled
- This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle. Or as determined by updated DEECD and medical advice

This policy was last ratified by School Council in 2010

Reference: Anaphylaxis Guidelines – A resource for managing severe allergies in government schools