ANAPHYLAXIS MANAGEMENT POLICY

Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand this policy, please contact the Hampton Primary School office on 9598 1412.

PURPOSE

To explain to Hampton Primary School 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 Hampton Primary School is compliant with Ministerial Order 706 and the department's guidelines for anaphylaxis management.

SCOPE

This policy applies to:

- all staff, including casual relief staff, canteen operators 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.

DEFINITIONS

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 or inhaled through the nose is the first aid treatment for anaphylaxis.

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

IMPLEMENTATION

Hampton Primary School fully complies with Ministerial Order 706 and the associated guidelines published by the department.

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2.1 Parents will be responsible for:

- Providing an *Individual Anaphylaxis Emergency Action Plan* (from Australasian Society of Clinical Immunology and Allergy Action Plan) for each child, that has been developed in consultation with the student's medical practitioner. This must be provided at enrolment or as soon as practical. A photo must be provided.
- The provision of at least one adrenaline device for school use to be kept in the first aid room. Those who prefer can also keep another one in the classroom with their child.
- Recording the expiry date of medications placed at school and the timely replacement of those medications /adrenaline auto injectors. A reminder letter will be sent out by the school nurse prior to the medications expiring.
- Informing the school if their child's medical condition changes and if relevant, provide an updated *Individual Anaphylaxis Emergency Action Plan and Management Plan* accordingly.

Individual Anaphylaxis Management Plans

All students at Hampton Primary School 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 School Nurse or First Aid Officer of Hampton Primary School 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 enrols at Hampton Primary School and where possible, before the student's first day.

Parents and carers must:

- obtain an ASCIA Action Plan for Anaphylaxis (RED) 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 (RED)
- provide an up-to-date photo of the student for the ASCIA Action Plan for Anaphylaxis (RED) and provide it to the school each time it is updated
- provide the school with a current adrenaline device for the student that has not expired
- participate in annual reviews of the student's Individual Anaphylaxis Management Plan that is prepared by the school.

Each student's Individual Anaphylaxis Management Plan must include:

- information about the student's 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 Individual Anaphylaxis Management Plan
- information about where the student's medication is stored
- the student's emergency contact details
- an up-to-date ASCIA Action Plan for Anaphylaxis (RED) completed by the student's medical practitioner.

Review and updates to Individual Anaphylaxis Management Plans:

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A student's Individual Anaphylaxis Management Plan is reviewed and updated on an annual basis in consultation with the student's 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.

Location of Plans and Adrenaline Devices

- *Individual Anaphylaxis Emergency Action Plans* (ASCIA) are displayed in;
    - the bag with the adrenaline auto injector device,
    - the First Aid Office and in the individual child's classroom in a medical alert folder.
    - A copy of the plan will be attached to each enrolment record, camp documents, CRT booklets and a mini card containing important information will be carried on yard duty in a First Aid bag to identify students at risk.
    - Copies of *Individual Anaphylaxis Emergency Action Plans* (ASCIA) will also be kept in the First Aid Office in an anaphylaxis folder. Medical alerts can be seen on CASES21 and Compass.
- Adrenaline autoinjectors are to be kept in the First Aid Room near the front office, or with the teacher supervising the student when out of school grounds. If appropriate (eg. camp) the student may carry the device themselves.
- Adrenaline autoinjectors for general use are available at the First Aid Room near the front office and are labelled "spare".

Risk Minimisation Strategies

To reduce the risk of a student suffering from an anaphylactic reaction at Hampton Primary School, 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
- the company that runs the school canteen will ensure that canteen staff are trained in appropriate food handling to reduce the risk of cross-contamination
- year groups are informed of allergens that must be avoided in advance of class parties, events or birthdays
- a general use adrenaline autoinjector is stored at the schoo office and in the yard duty bag for ease of access
- planning for off-site activities includes 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.
- The school has a nurse appointed to oversee the health needs of anaphylactic students.
- The Anaphylaxis Risk Management Checklist will be completed.

Adrenaline Autoinjectors for General Use

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Hampton School maintains a supply of adrenaline autoinjector(s) for general use, as a back-up to those provided by parents and carers for specific students, and also for students who may suffer from a first time reaction at school.

There are currently 4 adrenaline devices approved by the Therapeutic Goods Administration for use in Australia: the EpiPen®, the Anapen®, Jext® and Neffy®. All devices can be used when provided by families for students, however, staff members at our school are trained to administer all devices held at the school, including spares, for general use.

Adrenaline autoinjectors for general are stored at [insert location/s] and labelled “general use”.

The school nurse, in conjunction with the principal is responsible for arranging the purchase of adrenaline autoinjectors for general use, and considers:

- the number of students enrolled at Hampton Primary School at risk of anaphylaxis
- the accessibility of adrenaline autoinjectors supplied by parents/carers
- 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
- the weight of the students at risk of anaphylaxis to determine the correct dosage of adrenaline autoinjector/s to purchase.

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 the school nurse and stored at the First Aid Room. For camps, excursions and special events, a designated staff member will be responsible for maintaining a list of participating students who are at risk of anaphylaxis , together with their Individual Anaphylaxis Management Plans and adrenaline devices, where appropriate.

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

Step	Action
1.	• Lay the person flat • Do not allow them to stand or walk • If breathing is difficult, allow them to sit with legs outstretched • Be calm and reassuring • Do not leave them alone • Seek assistance from another staff member or reliable student to locate the student’s adrenaline device or the school’s general use autoinjector, and the student’s Individual Anaphylaxis Management Plan, stored at First Aid Room • if the student’s plan is not immediately available, or they appear to be experiencing a first-time reaction, continue with steps 2 to 5 and refer to the ASCIA First Aid Plan for Anaphylaxis (Orange), stored with the school’s adrenaline autoinjector for general use at First Aid Room, if immediately accessible.

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2.	Administer an EpiPen or EpiPen Jr ● Remove from plastic container ● Form a fist around the EpiPen and pull off the blue safety release (cap) ● Hold leg still and 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. **OR** Administer an Anapen® 500 ● Pull off the black needle shield ● Pull off grey safety cap (from the red button) ● Place needle end firmly against the student's outer mid-thigh at 90 degrees (with or without clothing) ● Press red button so it clicks and hold for 3 seconds ● Remove Anapen® ● Note the time the Anapen is administered ● Retain the used Anapen to be handed to ambulance paramedics along with the time of administration. **OR** Administer Jext 150 or 300 ● Form fist around Jext and pull off yellow cap ● Place black injector tip against outer-mid thigh (with or without clothing) ● Push black tip firmly until a click is heard and hold in place for 3 seconds. ● Remove Jext ● Note the time the Jext device is administered. ● The used adrenaline device must be handed to the ambulance paramedics along with the time of administration **OR** Administer Neffy® 1mg or 2mg ● Hold the nasal spray with your thumb on the bottom of the plunger and a finger on either side of the nozzle. ● Do not pull or push on the plunger. Do not test or prime (pre-spray). Each Neffy nasal spray contains only one spray. ● Place the nozzle of the nasal spray into a nostril until fingers touch the nose. ● For smaller nostrils, aim for the fingers to touch the nose. ● Keep the nozzle pointed towards the forehead. Do not angle the nozzle of the nasal spray to the inner or outer walls of the nose. ● Press the plunger up firmly until the dose is administered and it sprays into the nostril. ● Note the time the Neffy device is administered. ● The used adrenaline device must be handed to the ambulance paramedics along with the time of administration

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3.	Call an ambulance (000)
4.	If there is no improvement or severe symptoms progress (as described in the ASCIA Action Plan for Anaphylaxis (RED)), further adrenaline doses may be administered every 5 minutes, if other adrenaline devices are available.
5.	Contact the student's emergency contacts.
6.	The principal or a staff member allocated to do so must contact the Incident Support and Operations Centre (ISOC) on 1800 126 126 to report 'High' or Extreme' severity incidents to report the incident. Incidents assessed as 'Low' or 'Medium' can be reported directly into EduSafe Plus by the principal or their allocated staff member.

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.

For first time anaphylactic reactions, the school's general use adrenaline autoinjector device must be used. If the general use device is not immediately available in an anaphylaxis emergency, staff may use another student's adrenaline device, including the Epipen®, Anapen®, Jext® or Neffy® device. This may save a life. If another student's adrenaline device is used in an anaphylaxis emergency, the school must notify the parents of the student whose device was used and immediately replace the device.

Where possible, schools should consider using the correctly dosed adrenaline device depending on the weight of the student. However, in an emergency if there is no other option available, any device should be administered to the student.

Communication Plan

This policy is publicly available on Hampton Primary School's website so that parents/carers and other members of the school community can easily access information about anaphylaxis management procedures.

The principal is responsible for ensuring that all relevant staff, including casual relief staff, canteen staff and volunteers are aware of this policy and procedures for anaphylaxis management. We will communicate this policy through staff induction and training materials, and twice-yearly staff briefings. 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 also receive a CRT booklet that has in it any students who have anaphylaxis and information about key points of this policy.

The principal is also responsible for ensuring relevant staff are trained and briefed in anaphylaxis management, consistent with the department's Anaphylaxis Guidelines.

Staff Training

The principal ensures that the following school staff are appropriately trained in anaphylaxis management:

- First Aid Officer
- School staff who conduct classes attended by students who are at risk of anaphylaxis
- School staff who conduct specialist classes, all canteen staff, admin staff, first aiders and any other member of school staff as required by the principal based on a risk assessment.

Staff who are required to undertake training must have completed:

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- 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.

Hampton Primary School uses ASCIA anaphylaxis e-training for Victorian Schools with 22579VIC, or 22578VIC followed by a competency check by the school anaphylaxis supervisor or a face-to-face anaphylaxis management course (22578VIC and 22579VIC) by Hero HQ offered annually.

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 nurse, principal or delegate. Each briefing should address:

- the school's anaphylaxis management policy
- the causes, symptoms and treatment of anaphylaxis
- the identities of students diagnosed as being at risk of anaphylaxis, their allergens and the location of their Individual Anaphylaxis Management Plans and their medication/s
- discussion on staff anaphylaxis training and renewal
- how to use an adrenaline device, including hands-on practice with an adrenaline device trainer device (which does not contain adrenaline)
- the school's general first aid and emergency procedures
- the location of adrenaline devices prescribed for individual students that have been purchased by their family
- the location of adrenaline devices that the school has purchased for general use
- how to access on-going support and training.

When a new student enrols at Hampton Primary School who is at risk of anaphylaxis, the school nurse will develop an interim plan in consultation with the student's parents/carers and ensure that appropriate staff are trained and briefed as soon as possible.

A record of staff training courses and briefings is maintained by the school nurse.

The principal ensures 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.

RELATED POLICIES & RESOURCES

Appendix

Appendix 1: ASCIA Individual Action Plan.
Appendix 2: An example of a Student's Anaphylaxis Management Action Plan.
Appendix 3: Anaphylaxis Action Response plan (ASCIA) - generic.
These can also be located at www.education.vic.gov.au/healthwellbeing/health/anaphylaxis.htm

COMMUNICATION

The Anaphylaxis Management Policy will be reviewed every 12 months or in accordance with any changes relevant to the Health Act, DET guidelines or ministerial orders.

- Annual reminders in our school newsletter
- Available publicly on our school's website
- Included in the Parent Handbook
- Included in staff induction processes and staff training
- Discussed at staff briefings/meetings as required
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

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HAMPTON PRIMARY SCHOOL
Collaboration, Aspiration, Integrity, Resilience

POLICY REVIEW & APPROVAL

May 2022	**School Nurses** **Education Sub-Committee**	**Recommended for School Council ratification**	**18/05/2022**
July 2023	**School Nurses** **Education Sub-Committee**	**Recommended for School Council ratification**	**26/07/23**
September 2024	**School Nurses** **Education Sub-Committee**	**Recommended for School Council ratification**	**Term 3 2024**
September 2025	**School Nurses** **Education Sub-Committee**	**Recommended for School Council ratification**	**Term 3 2025**
August 2026	**School Nurse** **Principal**	**Ratified by Prinicpal: August** **Shared with School Council: August**	**Term 3 2026**

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