

Tuggerah Public School



Anaphylaxis Policy

Last amended: April 2017

Anaphylaxis is a severe and sudden allergic reaction. It occurs when a person is exposed to an allergen (such as a food or an insect bite). Reactions usually begin within minutes of exposure and can progress rapidly over a period of two hours or more.

Anaphylaxis is potentially life threatening and always requires an emergency response. Anaphylaxis can occur when there is no history of known allergies. This situation should be treated as any other emergency. An ambulance should be called and first aid provided until expert help arrives.

This School Policy reflects information found in:

ANAPHYLAXIS – Guidelines for Schools, 2nd edition 2006;

Anaphylaxis Procedures for Schools 2012; and

<http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/studentsupport/studenthealth/conditions/anaphylaxis/guidelines/index.php>

The school will follow the action steps as stated on pages 7 & 8 of the Guidelines:

We will:

1. Seek information from parents about allergies that affect their child on enrolment and on annual Emergency Contact sheets.
2. Meet with parents of relevant children to determine needs and create an 'Emergency Response Plan'.
3. Ensure that all staff members are trained in dealing with severe allergic reactions.
4. Conduct an assessment of potential exposure to allergens in the student's routine and of issues to be addressed in implementing an emergency response plan.
5. Develop an individual health care plan in consultation with relevant staff, the parent and student.
6. Review the individual health care plan annually and at any other time that changes are necessary.

Parents will:

1. Inform the principal of the health needs of the child upon enrolment and when the health needs of the child change.
2. Negotiate an individual health care plan with the principal and staff.
3. Provide the 'Dear doctor' letter (Appendix 4 of the Guidelines) to the child's medical practitioner and return the completed form to the school.
4. Provide written requests for the school to administer prescribed medications.
5. Provide the equipment and consumables for carrying out health care support procedures as specified in the student's individual health care plan, including, where relevant, the appropriate EpiPen.
6. Replace the EpiPen when it expires or after it has been used.

Strategies to avoid exposure to allergens

1. The canteen will not sell nuts or nut products.
2. Families are requested not to provide nuts or products containing nuts for morning tea or lunch.
3. Those organising fundraising events involving food being brought to school will endeavor to ensure that all involved are aware that foods containing nuts or nut products are not to be brought to school.

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