



DERINYA PEANUT / FOOD ALLERGY POLICY

Rationale:

- Providing, as far as practicable, a safe and supportive environment in which students at risk of anaphylaxis can participate equally in all aspects of the student's schooling.

Aims:

- Raising awareness about allergies and anaphylaxis in the school community.
- Actively involving the parents/carers of each student at risk of anaphylaxis in assessing risks, developing risk minimisation strategies and management strategies for the student.
- Ensuring each staff member has adequate knowledge of allergies, anaphylaxis and emergency procedures.

Implementation:

- Advise school community to avoid sending peanut butter or nut products on sandwiches and peanut and tree nut products in school lunches.
- Removal of peanut and tree nut products (eg. Peanut butter, cashews, hazelnuts, macadamia, etc) from Derinya kitchen, classrooms and staff room.
- At school camps it be requested that foods containing nuts are not taken or supplied and that camp staff be aware of all students with food allergies.
- Bullying by provoking food allergic children with food to which they are allergic should be recognised as a risk factor and be addressed by anti-bullying policies.
- Prevention strategies for in-school and out-of-school settings.
- A communication plan to raise staff, student and school community awareness about severe allergies and the school policies.
- All staff to be trained in the legislation approved Management of Anaphylaxis Course 21659VIC.
- Regular training and twice yearly updates for school staff in recognising and responding appropriately to an anaphylactic reaction, including competently administering an Autoinjector (Epipen or Anapen).
- Parents/carers of the student to provide an ASCIA (Australasian Society of Clinical Immunology and Allergy) Action Plan that has been signed by the student's medical practitioner and has an up to date photograph of the student.
- Ensure that parents/carers provide the student's Autoinjector and that it is not out of date.
- Ensure that the Autoinjector is stored correctly in an unlocked, easily accessible place, and that it is appropriately labelled.
- First Aid Officer to keep an up to date register of students at risk of anaphylaxis.
- First Aid Officer to provide information to all staff (including Derinya Kitchen, office staff, and volunteers) so that they are aware of students who are at risk of anaphylaxis, the student's allergies, the school's management strategies and first aid procedures. This can be done by displaying or providing copies of the student's ASCIA Action Plan in canteens, classrooms and first aid room.
- Ensure that there are procedures in place for informing casual relief teachers of students at risk of anaphylaxis and the steps required for prevention and emergency response.
- Review the student's Anaphylaxis Management Plan annually or if the student's circumstances change, in consultation with parents/carers.
- Teachers to work with parents/carers to provide appropriate food for student for special class activities, special occasions such as excursions, incursions, sport days, camps and parties.
- Raise student awareness about severe allergies and importance of their role in fostering a school environment that is safe and supportive to their peers. This can be done by having regular discussions with students about the importance of washing hands, eating their own food and not sharing food.
- Students to be supplied with an identification/medical alert wristband at the beginning of each school year. Additional wristbands will be available to purchase through the school if it is lost or damaged.
- All students diagnosed with anaphylaxis are to wear the identification/medical alert wristband provided by the school during school hours. This also applies when attending camps, excursions and school productions.
- This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three year review cycle.

EVALUATION

Ongoing

RESPONSIBILITY

Principal
Assistant Principal
First Aid Officer

School Council Approved
Review in 2014