



Student Health Policy

Rationale

The Department promotes culturally responsive approaches to strengthening student physical and mental health to maximise their engagement with teaching and learning. It does this in a way that builds shared responsibility for student health between school, students, parents and the broader community.

Guidelines

Develop emergency response plans for students with specific health conditions in consultation with parents and informed by health professionals.

Plan for the administration of first aid.

Plan for the management of anaphylaxis, asthma and other medical conditions.

ANAPHYLAXIS

Identification of students at risk of anaphylaxis when parents:

- complete a Form 1 student health care summary at enrolment or
- inform you that the student has a new diagnosis.

If a student is at risk of anaphylaxis:

- Parents to complete a Form 4 severe allergy or anaphylaxis and get an 'Anaphylaxis Action Plan' from GP.
- Parents have provided a prescribed adrenaline injector that is within date.
- Inform all staff, including relief and canteen staff, of the students at risk.
- Confirm school staff have completed anaphylaxis and food allergy professional learning.

Review student health care plans annually or when the student's health care needs change, whichever comes first.

You can access information and resources to help implement a whole school approach from Allergy Aware.

Storage of Medications - Adrenaline injectors

Types: EpiPen, Anapen.

Store adrenaline injectors in an unlocked location that is easy to access in an emergency. To be kept with an orange ASCIA Action Plan for Anaphylaxis. This provides instructions for how to use the injector.

Store out of direct heat and sunlight at room temperature, between 15 and 25° Celsius. Do not refrigerate the medication.

Use an insulated wallet to store the medication if it will be outside for an extended period of time.

Store anaphylaxis training devices away from the actual adrenaline injectors.

ASTHMA

Work with parents to identify and manage student health care needs and medication.

Parents to complete a **FORM 8 - ASTHMA MANAGEMENT & EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN**

Use student health care information provided by parents to:

- manage student health care needs
- plan and respond to student health care emergencies
- manage the approval, use, and storage of student medication

Storage of Medications

Asthma puffers

Store asthma puffers and spacers in an unlocked location that is easy to access in an emergency.

Asthma medications require storage at room temperature, between 15 and 30° Celsius. Keep the medication away from extreme temperatures.

Keep the cap on the puffer when it is not in use. This will help keep the mouthpiece clean.

MEDICAL OTHER

Complete management and emergency response plans

Students who need health care support at school must have a management and emergency response plan.

Standardised management and emergency response plans are available for common health care needs:

- [Severe allergy or anaphylaxis \(form 4\)](#) [Word 144.50 kB]
- [Mild and moderate allergies \(form 5\)](#) [Word 70.00 kB]
- Diabetes, refer to the [Diabetes WA website](#)
- [Seizures \(form 7\)](#) [Word 83.00 kB]
- [Asthma \(form 8\)](#) [Word 63.50 kB]
- [Personal care activities \(form 9\)](#) [Word 76.00 kB]
- [Special needs \(form 10\)](#) [Word 83.00 kB].

Use a [Generic health care plan \(form 2\)](#) [Word 157.50 kB] for all other health care needs.

Administer Medication

To get parent approval to administer medication to a student, use two forms:

- [Sample letter to parents for short or long-term medication \(form 11\)](#) [Word 39.50 kB]
- [Administration of medication \(form 3\)](#) [Word 113.00 kB] if the medication is for short term use or will be self-administered by the student.

You can administer medication to a student with written approval from a parent or carer.

Parent approval is not required in an emergency, for example unexpected anaphylaxis.

Refer to [Support students with anaphylaxis](#) for more information.

Make sure parents provide you with medication that is:

- clearly labelled with the student's name
- within the expiration date
- in original packaging.

Parents need to provide tablet medication in its correct dosage. School staff are not to cut provided medication.

Follow the instructions on the medication to store it safely. Store restricted drugs in a locked cupboard away from non restricted drugs.

Update the student's [Record of health care support and administration of medication \(form 12\)](#) [Word 130.00 kB] each time you administer medication.

Storage of Medications - Insulin injectors

Store insulin injectors in an unlocked location that is easy for staff and students to access, when required.

Keep in mind the risks associated with handling sharps when finding an appropriate place to store the equipment.

HEAD LICE

A student's head can be checked for head lice by: staff authorised by the principal, community health staff, school nurses.

If a student, or their parent, refuses to have their hair examined, you can direct the student not to attend school until they: have been examined, do not have lice in their hair.

Students who have head lice found in their hair should be: treated with sensitivity, given tasks which do not involve close interaction with other students.

Refer to the [HealthyWA](#) website for information on when a student can: be asked to stay at home, return to school after treatment.

Tell all parents in the class that: head lice has been found in their child's class; they should check their children for head lice and provide treatment if required; treatment should occur for at least 10 days and until all eggs and hatchlings are gone.

You can use the [Parental advice concerning head lice template letter](#) [Word 98.07 kB].

MANAGE MEDICAL EMERGENCIES

A medical emergency is a sudden or unexpected threat to health which requires an urgent assessment and alleviation of symptoms.

In a medical emergency:

- organises medical attention for the student

- makes appropriate transport arrangements if required
- informs parents as soon as possible of actions taken
- promptly records all actions taken
- completes an online incident notification report if required
- arranges a review of the event and support for staff/students if required. In an emergency, all school staff owe a duty of care for the safety and welfare of students. In the absence of staff with relevant first aid training, available staff should administer first aid within their level of experience until medical assistance can be provided.

Useful Links

[Parent approval for the administration of student medication form \(form 3\) - Ikon - The Department of Education](#)

[Manage student health care needs and medication - Ikon - The Department of Education](#)

[Access the Student Health Care in Public Schools policy and procedures - Ikon - The Department of Education](#)

Access the Student Health Care in Public Schools policy and procedures

Select the link to access the policy and procedures.

[Access the policy and procedures !\[\]\(ec9132f1d27c8919987d92907322654d_img.jpg\)](#)