

POLICY: HEALTH CARE NEEDS

PURPOSE:

To ensure that the school provides appropriate support to students with health care needs.

AIMS:

To explain to parents, carers, staff and students the processes and procedures in place to support students with health care needs at school.

This policy applies to:

- all staff, including casual relief staff and volunteers
- all students who have been diagnosed with a health care need that may require support, monitoring or medication at school

IMPLEMENTATION:

Student health support planning

- In order to provide appropriate support to students who may need medical care or assistance, a *Student Health Management Plan* will be prepared in consultation with the student, their parents/carers and treating medical practitioners.
- *Student Health Management Plans* help our school to assist students with:
 - routine health care support needs, such as supervision or provision of medication
 - personal care support needs, such as assistance with personal hygiene, continence care, eating and drinking, transfers and positioning, and use of health-related equipment
 - emergency care needs, such as predictable emergency first aid associated with asthma, migraine, seizure or diabetes management.
- Students with complex medical care needs, for example, tracheostomy care, seizure management or tube feeding, must have a *Student Health Management Plan* which provides for appropriate staff to undertake specific training to meet the student's particular needs.
- At enrolment or when a health care need is identified, parents/carers should provide accurate information about the student's condition or health care needs, ideally documented by the student's treating medical/health care practitioner.
- The school may invite parents and carers to attend a Student Support Group meeting to discuss the contents of a student's *Health Management Plan* and assistance that the student may need at school or during school activities.
- Where necessary, the school may also request consent from parents and carers to consult with a student's medical practitioners, to assist in preparing the plan and ensure that appropriate school staff understand the student's needs.
- *Student Health Management Plans* will be reviewed:
 - when updated information is received from the student's medical practitioner
 - when the school, student or parents and carers have concerns with the support being provided to the student
 - if there are changes to the support being provided to the student, or
 - on an annual basis

Management of confidential medical information

- Confidential medical information provided to the school to support a student will be:
 - recorded on the student's file
 - shared with all relevant staff so that they are able to properly support students diagnosed with medical conditions and respond appropriately if necessary

Further information and resources

Related policies are:

- Administration of Medication
- Anaphylaxis Management
- Asthma Management

REVIEW:

This policy will be reviewed in July 2022.

APPROVED BY SCHOOL COUNCIL: 7/8/2018