

## 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

- 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 can 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 2025.

**APPROVED BY SCHOOL COUNCIL:** 29/3/2022