

## STUDENT HEALTH CARE POLICY

### RATIONALE

Willetton Primary School promotes student health, supports student health care needs, and identifies and minimises health risks within the context of the schools' resources, and the assistance available from specialist services.

### MANAGING STUDENT HEALTH CARE

For students whose health care needs can be supported using resources available to the school, we:

- Request parents to complete one or more of the Department's standardised student health care plans or provide an alternative plan from their child's medical practitioner;
- Manage the implementation and updating of student health care plans;
- Arrange the training necessary to enable staff to support student health care.

### STAFF RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Teaching staff support the implementation of student health care plans within their level of expertise.
- 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 or health care support within their level of experience, until medical assistance can be provided
- The Department supports staff who have fulfilled their duties in good faith. This includes administering health care support and/or emergency first aid.

### MEDICAL EMERGENCIES

Principal and/or administration team are informed of all emergencies.

In a medical emergency, the principal or delegate will:

- Organise medical attention for the student;
- Make appropriate transport arrangements if required;
- Inform parents as soon as possible of actions taken;
- Promptly record all actions taken;
- Complete an online incident notification report if required; and
- Arrange a review of the event and debriefing and support for staff/students if required.

The absence of parental consent does not prevent a principal or delegate seeking medical attention in an emergency.

The Student Health Care Summary which is completed by all parents at enrolment indicates that parents are expected to meet the cost of an ambulance in an emergency.

### ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION

The school will:

- Require parents to provide information regarding long-term administration of medication in the student's health care plan;
- Require parents to complete relevant documentation for the short-term administration of medication;

- Require parents to provide any medication the student needs;
- Maintain a record of all medication administered at school; and
- Arrange for all medication to be stored appropriately.

## **STUDENT IMMUNISATION**

The school collects and records information on the School Information System (SIS) regarding the student's immunisation status and provides information regarding the immunisation record of any student to the Department of Health on request.

## **PREVENTION OF INFECTION**

Students are informed about effective hand washing, are informed about reducing the spread of infection through coughing and sneezing etiquette and reducing the spread of infection by not sharing eating and drinking utensils.

## **COMMUNICABLE DISEASE MANAGEMENT**

If a student or staff member has a communicable disease, principals will take action in accordance with the advice provided by the Department of Health in managing communicable diseases. If the communicable disease is notifiable, principals will:

- Report the matter to the local Public/Population Health Unit and seek their advice before taking any further action; and
- Act in accordance with advice provided by local Department of Health staff.

## **ANAPHYLAXIS**

A whole school approach to the prevention and emergency management of anaphylaxis includes:

- Identification of students at risk;
- The development of a health care plan for students with anaphylaxis which includes an Australian Society of Clinical Immunology and Allergy (ASCIA) emergency action plan;
- Verifying that an adequate number of staff have completed anaphylaxis training;
- Establishing procedures for reducing the risk of exposure to known allergens;
- Establishing procedures for responding to anaphylaxis emergencies;
- Verifying that parents have provided a prescribed adrenaline auto-injector for students with anaphylaxis;
- Verifying that up to date emergency adrenaline auto-injectors (AAIs) are available in the first aid kit

## **HEAD LICE**

The principal may authorise a member of staff to examine the head of any student to ascertain whether head lice are present. If head lice are found, students may be given tasks which do not involve close group work but do not necessarily need to be excluded from school. However, the principal has discretion under the School Education Act 1999 to require that a student does not attend or participate in an educational program until parents confirm that a recommended treatment is being undertaken and all head lice have been removed.

## **SUNCARE**

The school will, as appropriate, modify teaching and learning programs to suit weather conditions; and inform parents, staff and students, agreed procedures for effective sun protection.

This policy was endorsed by the School Board Term 2, 2019.