

ANAPHYLAXIS Management Policy



Date: November 2016.

Movelles School Values:

Respect, Responsibility, Resilience, Compassion.

Our vision at Movelles Primary School is to empower our students to become successful life-long learners. We will prepare our students to contend with the complexities of an ever changing world, in which creativity, adaptability, teamwork and connectedness to our community and the world are key features. Our school community will practise the core values of *responsibility, respect, resilience and compassion* for all.

Background:

Anaphylaxis is a severe, rapidly progressive allergic reaction that is potentially life threatening. Although allergic reactions are common in children, severe life threatening allergic reactions are uncommon and deaths are rare. However, deaths have occurred and anaphylaxis must, therefore, be regarded as a medical emergency that requires a rapid response.

Certain foods and insect stings are the most common causes of anaphylaxis.

Adrenaline administered through an EpiPen or its equivalent to the muscle of the outer thigh is the most effective first aid treatment of anaphylaxis.

Symptoms of a mild to moderate allergic reaction can include:

- *Swelling of the face and eyes*
- *Hives or welts*
- *Abdominal pain and/or vomiting*

Symptoms of a severe allergic reaction can include:

- *Difficulty breathing or noisy breathing*
- *Swelling of the tongue*
- *Swelling /tightness of throat*
- *Difficulty talking or hoarse voice*
- *Wheezing or persistent coughing*
- *Loss of consciousness and or/collapse*
- *Younger children may appear floppy*

Purpose:

- To provide, as far as possible, a safe and supportive environment in which students at risk of anaphylaxis can participate equally in all aspects of schooling.

- To manage allergy sufferers and anaphylactic reactions as effectively and efficiently as possible at school and in ASC (After School Care) program.
- To ensure staff have adequate knowledge about allergies and anaphylaxis.
- To engage with parents/carers of students at risk of anaphylaxis in assessing risks, developing risk management strategies for the student.

Individual anaphylaxis management plans.

The Principal will ensure that the parents of students, who have been diagnosed by a medical practitioner as being at risk of anaphylaxis, understand that their medical practitioner must provide an up to date individual anaphylaxis management plan to the school as early as possible.

The individual anaphylaxis plan will set out the following:

- information about the diagnosis, including the type of allergy or allergies that the student has (Based on a diagnosis from a medical practitioner)
- strategies to minimise the risk of exposure to allergens while the student is under the care or supervision of school staff, for in-school and out of school settings including camps and excursions.
- information on where the student's medication is stored
- contact details for the student
- the procedure for managing an emergency (ASCIA Action Plan) which is provided by the parent
- each student's individual management plan will be reviewed
 - a. in consultation with parents/carers, annually or as applicable.
 - b. immediately after a student has had an anaphylactic reaction at school.

It is the responsibility of the parent to:

- provide an emergency procedure plan to the school
- inform the school if their child's condition changes, and if relevant, provide an updated emergency procedure plan

COMMUNICATION PLAN

The Principal will ensure that a communication plan is developed to provide information to all staff, students and parents about anaphylaxis and the school's anaphylaxis policy/plan.

The communication plan will include information about what steps will be taken to respond to an anaphylactic reaction by a student in the classroom, in the school yard, on excursions and special event days.

The CRT coordinator (or designated person) will ensure CRTs are informed of students at risk and what their role is in responding to an anaphylactic reaction by a student in their care. This includes being alerted to relevant anaphylaxis information.

All staff will be briefed twice yearly on:

- the school's anaphylaxis management policy
- the causes and symptoms and treatment of anaphylaxis

- students diagnosed at risk of anaphylaxis and the location of the medication
- the correct use of the auto adrenaline injecting device
- the school's first aid and emergency response procedures.
- Staff training and emergency response

All school staff will have up to date training in an anaphylaxis management training course. The principal will ensure there are sufficient staff trained in up to date anaphylaxis management during excursions, yard duty, camps and special event days.

General:

- .Epipens to be kept on site (stored in sick bay cupboard) and 'in date' for use at school and on camps/excursions.
- Movellet to purchase spare or 'backup' adrenaline auto-injection device(s) for general use.
- All epipens to be labelled with child's name or school name (**NOT** to be used by others)
- Each student's ASCIA(Appendix 1) plan is located in Sick Bay and readily accessible.
- a photo of each child at risk is displayed in the Staff room Office and Sick Bay.
- Parents/ guardians are responsible for ensuring their children have an adequate supply of appropriate medication, at school at all times.
- Designated first aid officer is responsible for checking expiry dates of the epipen/anapen, and will notify parents prior to expiry.
- Each student's plan is updated annually by the student's medical practitioner.
- Each yard duty bag carries an anaphylaxis alert. In the case of an emergency during recess or lunch time the appropriate card is sent to the Office so that the designated first aid officer is called and can execute a rapid response.
- All students at risk must provide an epipen/anapen and ASCIA action plan for school camps and excursions.
- Staff to educate students on the risks and dangers associated with sharing food.
- Raise student and community awareness about severe allergies.

Emergency Management

In the event of an anaphylactic episode

In the classroom:

the teacher in charge will contact the Office. If possible the child will be taken to the sick bay where their personal epipen/anapen can be used. When it is decided to use the Epipen: 000 will be rung immediately. A mobile phone will be used if the child is not located in the Office area. Parents will be notified.

In the school yard:

all yard duty teachers to carry an anaphylaxis alert in their bags

In the event of an anaphylactic episode, the yard duty teacher will alert the Office and provide the name of the student to enable their Epipen to be taken to the scene directly. The Office will call 000 and parents will be notified.

At excursion/sports/camp:
the School will inform the camp of any students with anaphylaxis to ensure that appropriate arrangements are made for students attending the camp.
The EpiPen will accompany students to all excursions, camps and sporting events.
In the event of an anaphylactic episode the supervising teacher will administer the EpiPen.
000 will be called and parents notified.
for school camps, parents will be fully informed of relevant considerations such as: remoteness, mobile phone coverage.

Anaphylaxis management:
minimising exposure:

Children are expected to eat their play lunch and lunch in the classroom.
Children will not move around whilst eating as this will help minimise contamination.
There will be regular communication with parents, via newsletter and notes sent home reminding them that nuts are not banned however, they should exercise caution when preparing lunches and snacks.
Parents are free to pack the foods of their choice for children to eat at school, however they are reminded that there are students (and or teachers) who are anaphylactic and this is a condition that can cause death.
At Movelle, we will reinforce that we don't share food and that we should wash our hands before and after eating. Where it is known that students have brought nut products to school, and there is an anaphylactic student in that classroom, the teacher will take all precautions to minimise risk. Parents can help us by ensuring nut products are placed in a sealed container or bag.
Foods such as cakes or other foods sent to school to celebrate birthdays should not contain nuts.

Completion of an Anaphylaxis Risk Management Checklist annually. Appendix 2.

Date Implemented:	
Approved by School Council	
School Council President signature & date	
Date reviewed	
Responsible for Review	Assistant Principal
Review Date	November 2019
References	Victorian Government Schools Policy Advisory Guide