



Rationale

Anaphylaxis is a severe, rapidly progressive allergic reaction that is potentially life threatening. The most common allergens in school aged children are peanuts, eggs, tree nuts (e.g. cashews), cow's milk, fish and shellfish, wheat, soy, sesame, latex, certain insect stings and medication.

The key to prevention of anaphylaxis in schools is knowledge of those students who have been diagnosed at risk, awareness of triggers (allergens), and prevention of exposure to these triggers. Partnerships between schools and parents are important in keeping certain foods or items away from the student while at school. Staff and parents/guardians need to be made aware that it is not possible to achieve a completely allergen-free environment in any service that is open to the general community.

Adrenaline given through an adrenaline autoinjector to the muscle of the outer mid-thigh is the most effective first aid treatment for anaphylaxis.

This policy is formulated in accordance with Ministerial Order 706.

Scripture

“They will turn to the Lord, and He will respond to their pleas and heal them”. Isaiah 19:22

Aim

The aim of this policy is to:

- provide, as far as practicable, a safe and supportive environment in which students at risk of anaphylaxis can participate equally in all aspects of the student's schooling
- raise awareness about anaphylaxis and the school's anaphylaxis management policy in the school community
- engage with parents/carers of students at risk of anaphylaxis in assessing risks, developing risk minimisation strategies and management strategies for the student
- inform staff members about allergies, anaphylaxis and the school's policy and procedures in responding to an anaphylactic reaction

Individual Anaphylaxis Management Plans

The College will develop an individual management plan, in consultation with the student's parents, for any student who has been diagnosed by a medical practitioner as being at risk of anaphylaxis.

The individual anaphylaxis management plan will be in place as soon as practicable after the student enrolls or is diagnosed with a medical condition.



The individual anaphylaxis management plan sets out the following:

- information about the student's medical condition that relates to allergy and the potential for anaphylactic reaction, including the type of allergy/allergies the student has (based on a written diagnosis from a Medical Practitioner)
- strategies to minimise the risk of exposure to known and notified allergens while the student is under the care or supervision of School Staff
- the name of the person/s responsible for implementing the strategies
- information on where the student's medication will be stored
- the student's emergency contact details
- an approved Action Plan

The student's individual management plan will be reviewed by relevant school staff, in consultation with the student's parents/ carers:

- if the student's medical condition, changes
- as soon as practicable after the student has an anaphylactic reaction at School
- when the student is to participate in an off-site activity or at special events conducted, organised or attended by the School

It is the responsibility of the Parents to:

- provide the approved action plan in consultation with medical practitioner
- inform the School in writing if their child's medical condition changes and if relevant, provide an updated approved action plan
- provide an up to date photo for the approved action plan
- provide the School with an Adrenaline Autoinjector that is current for their child

Prevention Strategies

Nagle College will implement relevant risk management and prevention strategies for relevant in-school and out-of-school settings.

Communication Plan

The College will develop a communication plan to provide information to all staff, students and parents about anaphylaxis and the school's anaphylaxis management policy.

The communication plan will include information about what steps will be taken to respond to an anaphylactic reaction by a student.

Casual relief staff of students at risk of anaphylaxis will be informed of their role in responding to an anaphylactic reaction by a student in their care.



School Management and Emergency Response

Teachers and other school staff who conduct classes with students at risk of anaphylaxis are required to have up to date training in anaphylaxis management.

All teaching staff and any further staff members identified as requiring training by the College will be appropriately trained.

The identified school staff will undertake the approved anaphylaxis training course every two years and participate in an anaphylaxis briefing twice per year.

The school's first aid procedures and students emergency procedures plan (approved action plan) will be followed in responding to an anaphylactic reaction.

A Risk Management Checklist will be completed annually.

Adrenaline Autoinjectors for General Use

The College will purchase Adrenaline Autoinjector(s) for General Use (purchased by the School) and as a back up to those supplied by Parents.