

Tobruk Street Primary School

ANAPHYLAXIS POLICY

Anaphylaxis is a severe and potentially life-threatening condition.

- **Signs & symptoms of anaphylaxis include hives/rash, tingling in or around the mouth, abdominal pain, vomiting or diarrhoea, facial swelling, cough or wheeze, difficulty breathing or swallowing, loss of consciousness or collapse, or cessation of breathing.**
- **Anaphylaxis is best prevented by knowing and avoiding the allergens.**

Rationale:

- Anaphylaxis is an acute allergic reaction to certain food items and insect stings. The condition develops in approximately 1-2% of the population. The most common allergens are nuts, eggs, cow's milk and bee or other insect stings, and some medications.

Aims:

- To provide a safe and healthy school environment that takes into consideration the needs of all students, including those who may suffer from anaphylaxis.

Implementation:

- Our school will manage anaphylaxis by:-
 - providing professional development for all staff
 - identifying susceptible students and knowing their allergens
 - informing the community about anaphylaxis via the newsletter
 - not allowing food sharing, and restricting food to that approved by parents
 - keeping the lawns well maintained, ensuring children always wear shoes.
 - **requiring parents to provide an emergency management plan developed by a health professional and an EpiPen if necessary, both of which will be maintained in the office for reference as required**
 - ensuring staff are provided with regular professional development on the identification and response to anaphylaxis and the proper use of an EpiPen.
- The school won't ban certain types of foods (eg: nuts) as it is not practicable to do so, and is not a strategy recommended by the Department of Education or the Royal Children's Hospital. However, the school will request that parents do not send those items to school if at all possible; that special events eg: special lunch order days eliminate or reduce the likelihood of such allergens. The school will reinforce the rules about not sharing food.

Evaluation:

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle.

This policy was last ratified by School Council in 2013