



THE LAKES SOUTH MORANG P-9 SCHOOL

Anaphylaxis Policy

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 ensuring that certain foods or items are kept away from the student while at school. Adrenaline given through an EpiPen® autoinjector to the muscle of the outer mid thigh is the most effective first aid treatment for anaphylaxis.

Aims:

- To provide a broad health education following the Implementation Guidelines as set down by the Department of Education and Early Childhood in the management of Anaphylaxis and the use of an EpiPen
- To provide professional development that will facilitate the implementation of broad health education
- To engender non-discriminatory attitudes and practices

Implementation:

- An individual Anaphylaxis Management Plan for the student will be developed in consultation with the student's parents/carers and medical practitioner and will be placed in a prominent position
- 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 will be put into place.
- Strong communication between The Lakes School and parents of students with food allergies will be promoted
- Teams will run through a short, educational information session with all students that will cover anaphylaxis, the signs and symptoms and what to do if they see their friend having a reaction. The importance of not sharing food will be highlighted.
- Regular training and updates will be provided for Lakes School staff in recognising and responding appropriately to an anaphylactic reaction including competent administration of an EpiPen
- At the commencement of every year all EpiPen plan forms will be updated by parents and First Aid Coordinator
- EpiPens will be provided by parents and these will be kept in the year level office and / or sick bay
- The First Aid Coordinator is responsible for informing parent when EpiPens need replacing
- The school community will be kept informed of any new developments via the weekly Newsletter

Evaluation:

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

This policy has been endorsed by School Council July 15th 2008.