

	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Whitsunday Christian College</b></p>	<p>Last Updated: February 2022</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Anaphylaxis Statement</b></p>	<p>Version: 2</p>

This statement is to explain the responsibilities for students and parents in regards to Anaphylaxis.

### **Reducing the risk**

In line with both government policy and the anaphylaxis organisations, our policy is not one based on banning items that cause anaphylaxis, but rather on awareness and guidelines to help individuals who are prone to these attacks.

1. Children are reminded not to share food and drink.
2. Students are encouraged to maintain general hygiene practices.
3. Younger students are supervised whilst they are eating and at-risk students can be placed in a food group where class mates have allergy free food to minimise the risk.

Staff members are trained on an annual basis to recognize the signs and symptoms of Anaphylaxis reactions and teachers of at-risk students are made aware of the child's individual management plan.

### **The role of the parent/caregiver**

It is the role of the parent/caregiver to:

- upon enrolment, or if the student is enrolled, as soon as possible after diagnosis, inform the Principal of the school in writing that their child is at risk of an anaphylactic reaction
- notify the school in writing of any requests and/or guidelines from medical practitioners concerning the student's anaphylaxis
- provide the school with an Action Plan for Anaphylaxis signed by a medical practitioner, for all students who have been diagnosed as anaphylactic or potentially anaphylactic
- provide written notification for the school to administer or assist a student with the administration of a prescribed medication (for example, EpiPen) in the management of an anaphylactic reaction
- provide the equipment and consumables, including medication (for example, EpiPen), for carrying out emergency treatment as specified in the student's Action Plan for Anaphylaxis
- notify the school if a student is to carry emergency medication (for example, EpiPen) on their person and self-administer this medication
- negotiate with the Principal the conditions around which their student self-administers medication
- ensure that the equipment and consumables, including medication (for example, EpiPen) provided, is not out of date and is labelled clearly with the student's name and dosage information
- replace the medication (for example, EpiPen) when it expires or after it has been used.

Although it may be possible to minimise students' exposure to potential allergens within the school environment, the implementation of blanket food bans or attempts to prohibit the entry of particular food substances into schools is not supported by the Department of Education (Queensland), Queensland Health and the Australasian Society of Clinical Immunology and Allergy (ASCIA). Schools should not make claims that their school is 'peanut/nut free' as this is impossible to guarantee and may lead to a false sense of security about exposure to allergens.

Whitsunday Christian College uses the following resources as a guide for the implementation, training and awareness of Anaphylaxis:

- Allergy & Anaphylaxis Australia
- ASCIA Anaphylaxis e-training