1. **BACKGROUND**

Anaphylaxis is a severe and rapidly progressing allergic reaction that is potentially life threatening. The most common allergens in school aged children are peanuts eggs, tree nuts (cashews) cow’s milk, fish and shellfish, sesame and certain insect stings.

1. **PURPOSE**

* Provide, as far as practicable, a safe and supportive environment in which students t risk of anaphylaxis can participate equally in all aspects of the students schooling
* Raise awareness about Anaphylaxis and the colleges anaphylaxis management policy guidelines in the school community.
* Engage with parents / guardians of each student at risk of anaphylaxis in assessing risks, developing risk management strategies for the students
* Ensure that staff have the knowledge about allergies, anaphylaxis and the school’s guidelines and procedures in responding to an anaphylactic reaction.

1. **MANAGEMENT**

Individual Anaphylaxis Health Care Plan

The college nurse will ensure that an Individual Anaphylaxis Health Care Plan (IAHCP) is developed in consultation with the parents/guardians, for any student who has been diagnosed by a medical practitioner as being at risk of anaphylaxis

The IAHCP will be in place as soon as practical after the student is enrolled.

The students IAHCP will be reviewed, in consultation with the students parent /guardians:

* Annually, and as applicable
* If the student condition changes,
* Immediately after the student has had an anaphylactic reaction.

1. **ROLES and RESPONSIBILITIES**

4.1 It is the responsibility of the student to:

* self-manage their anaphylaxis in line with their age and stage of development
* carry emergency medications (Antihistamine and Epipen) on them at all times.
* report to Student Services if they require assistance throughout the day.

4.2 It is responsibility of the parent to:

* provide an ASCIA Action Plan to the College Nurse, completed by the child medical practitioner with a current photo
* inform the college nurse if their child’s medication changes, and if relevant, provide an update ASCIA Plan
* encourager their child to carry their own emergency medication.

4.3 It is responsibility of the staff to:

* complete annual Anaphylaxis ELearning on the DET training web site
* complete training in using an Epipen with the College Nurse as required.
* familiarise themselves with the medical alert information on Compass.
* help students minimise exposure to known triggers
* Encourage students to present to student services via the traffic light system if help is needed or they are concerned about an exposure to a known triggers
* follow the school’s first aid procedures and ASCIA Action Plan when responding to an anaphylactic reaction.
* ensure they carry emergency first aid kits and emergency medications (Ventolin and Epipen) on them at all times on an excursion, social event or camp. Staff will need to be aware of students with anaphylaxis and their emergency action plans
* Document any anaphylaxis episode **and** advise parents/carers.
* an awareness of anaphylaxis and its implications in food handling. Canteen staff will try to minimise this risk at all times and are aware of correct food labelling procedures

4.4 It is the responsibility of the College Nurse to:

* provide information to all staff, students and parents/guardians on anaphylaxis in liaison with the Principal’s delegate – Head of Student Services.
* conduct training with staff on a yearly basis
* replace Epipens on an annual basis

4.5 It is the responsibility of the College to:

* ensure all legal, regulatory and departmental requirements relating to health care planning and anaphylaxis management
* ensure the college maintains a central record of students health care needs, including anaphylaxis, and reviews regularly or as the students medical condition changes
* induct new staff in anaphylaxis policies and procedures and encourages staff to complete online DET training through ASCIA website
* ensure the college has a Epipen replacement guideline. Epipens are replaced annually by the college nurse

1. **RISK MINIMISATION**

The key to prevention of anaphylaxis is the identification of allergens and prevention of exposure to them. The college employs a range of practical prevention strategies to minimise exposure to known allergens.

* 1. In the classroom:
* Staff identify students at risk in their classes
* Never give foods from outside sources to a student who is at risk of anaphylaxis
* Be aware of the possibility of hidden allergens in food technology, science and art classes e.g. egg or milk cartons
  1. In the canteen:
* Canteen staff have an awareness of anaphylaxis and its implications food handling
* Canteen staff are aware of potential cross contamination when strong, preparing, handling or presenting food
* Canteen staff ensure tables and surfaces are wiped clean regularly
  1. In the yard
* Duty staff will provide an emergency response to an anaphylactic emergency and the Student Service Triage Officer and College Nurse will be contacted.
* Additional Epipens are located in various locations around the school – Health Centre and Student Services
  1. On Site Activities
* Staff must know where adrenaline auto injectors are located and how to access
* Should avoid using food in activities or games, including rewards.
  1. Off-site activities
* When planning excursion’s, camps, interstate / overseas trips, a risk management plan (Action Plan) for the student must be taken or developed
* Campsite/accommodation providers and airlines should be advised in advance of any students with food allergies.
* Staff should liaise with the parent / guardian to develop alternative meals or allow students to bring their own meals.
* Use of other substances containing allergens (e.g. soaps, lotions, sunscreens contain nut oils) should be avoided where possible.
* Student’s adrenaline auto injector and ASCIA Action Plan and a mobile phone must be taken on the excursion/tour plus a spare auto injector in the first aid kit.
* Staff attending the excursion/camp/tour should update their training if required
* Be aware of what the local emergency services in the area are and how to access them
* Cooking and art/craft games should not involve the use of known allergens.
* Consider the potential exposure to allergens when consuming food on buses/airlines and in rooms.

1. REVIEW PROCESS

* The college nurse and principal’s representative will review the policy annually
* Emergency medication kits will be reviewed annually
* Health care form and health care planning will be reviewed as required.