



School Anaphylaxis Plan

DEFINITIONS

Anaphylaxis is an acute allergic reaction to such things as egg, peanuts, shellfish, bee stings and many other allergens. Anaphylaxis can be life threatening with rapid onset and evolution of symptoms occurring soon after exposure to the allergen. Exposure can be via direct contact or indirect contact through cross-contamination. In rare cases reactions can result from the breath of a person who has consumed peanuts or other specific allergens. The symptoms of this type of allergic reaction include shortness of breath, rash, wheezing and upper airway obstruction. An anaphylactic reaction is treated with an immediate injection of adrenaline.

PRINCIPLES

1. St Joseph's Primary Kindergarten and Pre Primary are nut free. Children at this age have their food intake closely supervised.
2. The school canteen is nut free.
3. In years 1-6, St Joseph's Primary promotes allergy awareness. This requires parents and children's support as there are a number of children across the school who suffer from these allergies.

PROCEDURES

1. The parent is responsible for providing St Joseph's Primary with all relevant information about a student's allergies and shall be collected at enrolment or upon diagnosis.
 - a. All students who suffer from serious allergic reactions and any other articulated chronic medical condition will have a Medical Action Plan provided to the school by a medical practitioner explaining triggers, expected symptoms and recommended action in the event of accidental exposure to a trigger.
2. All staff shall receive training in anaphylactic awareness, recognition and management;
3. Staff at St Joseph's should receive training by qualified personnel to administer an *Epipen* (for example by the school or community nurse);
4. Staff at St Joseph's Primary must follow the Anaphylaxis Action Plan (see attached);
4. After the use of an Epipen the student will be transferred to hospital by ambulance;
5. Awareness education of anaphylaxis will be on-going and may include:
 - a. Providing information sessions to parents
 - b. Newsletter items
 - c. Staff meeting agenda item
 - d. Professional development for staff