

WARRINGA PARK SCHOOL

HEALTH CARE NEEDS POLICY



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact School Administration.

PURPOSE

This policy explains the processes, procedures and documentation that are required for Warringa Park School to adequately support and respond to students with identified health care needs, complex medical needs and who require personal care support.

SCOPE

This policy applies to:

- All Warringa Park School Campuses
- All staff, including casual relief staff, contractors and volunteers
- All students who have been diagnosed with asthma or who may require emergency treatment for asthma and their parents/carers.

POLICY

Schools have a responsibility to provide equitable access to education and respond to diverse student needs, including health care needs.

Research and evidence suggest early intervention to address health care needs is critical to mitigate life-long disadvantages, particularly for students in their early years.

Warringa Park School must:

- support and make reasonable adjustments for students with health care needs
- develop, review and implement a *Student Health Support Plan* to support the student's health care needs when a health care need is identified
- allocate time for relevant staff to discuss and review health support planning policies, processes and individual student plans.

PLANNING FOR STUDENTS WITH IDENTIFIED HEALTH CARE NEEDS

A *Student Health Support Plan* must be completed for each student with an identified health care need, other than anaphylaxis or an allergy (refer to Anaphylaxis and Allergies about the requirements for those conditions) meeting the criteria below.

A student health support plan is required for students who:

- need medical or health-related support at school
- have a health care need or condition that may impact the student at school
- have health care need or condition that may impact their engagement and participation in education.

To develop a student health support plan, Warringa Park School must:

- work with families to develop the plan, guided by advice from the student's treating medical/health practitioner
- include actions in the plan as to how Warringa Park School will support the student's health care needs
- communicate regularly with parents about the student's health care needs at the school and update the plan if necessary.



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Students with asthma, diabetes, or epilepsy need to provide their (condition specific) health management plan to the school, and have a student health support plan developed, which outlines how the school will support the student's health care needs.

PROVISION OF COMPLEX MEDICAL CARE AT SCHOOL

The department does not expect or require teachers to provide complex medical care. When it is agreed that specialised medical procedures may be needed to enable a student to attend school then:

- designated school staff must receive specific training to allow them to meet the student's individual health care need
- the *Student Health Support Plan* should:
 - be guided by medical advice received by the student's medical practitioner
 - describe specific training requirements
 - include procedures that make use of local medical services such as ambulances, local doctors, health centres, hospitals and community nurses when practical

OTHER MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES FOR STUDENTS WITH SPECIFIC HEALTH CARE NEEDS

TRAINING FOR SCHOOL STAFF

Schools must access training for school staff:

- in basic first aid
- to meet specific student health needs not covered under basic first aid training, such as managing asthma or epilepsy
- to meet complex medical care needs, such as the Schoolcare Program.

COMMUNICATION, PHYSICAL ACTIVITY, AND CAMPS

Schools must communicate with families about any health or development concerns. It is also important for schools to make reasonable adjustments to enable students with health care needs to participate in physical education and other physical activities, camps and excursions wherever possible

COMPLEX MEDICAL CARE

Complex medical care often requires school staff to undertake specific training to meet the student's individual health needs. These needs cannot be addressed through basic first aid training and staff may be involved in:

- tracheostomy care
- seizure management
- medication by injection or rectal suppository
- administering suction
- tube feeding
- specialised medical procedures

RELATED POLICIES

- Medication Administration Policy
- First Aid Policy
- Duty of Care Policy
- Allergies Policy
- Anaphylaxis Policy
- Asthma Policy
- Diabetes Policy
- Epilepsy and Seizures Policy



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POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	June 2025
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	June 2028

