



FIRST AID POLICY

At any one time, a student can have a health condition or care need that could impact on their attendance and participation within school. This can require short or long-term first aid planning, supervision for safety, routine health and personal care support and occasionally complex medical care needs. FCS has a responsibility to provide equitable access to education and respond to diverse student needs, including health care needs. This policy has been developed to support student health within a school environment in a proactive manner.

To be read in conjunction with

- Student Medical Care Policy and all documents associated with the Anaphylaxis Management Policy.

Guidelines:

- Generally, schools are unable to provide for ill and recuperating students. Teachers require students to have relatively stable health and clear care plans. For example, teachers can generally safely supervise a child with a chronic health condition such as asthma or diabetes where the individual's health is relatively stable and predictable and care recommendations have been documented and agreed to by the school. If, however, a student has recently contracted an illness, is infectious and/or needs rest and recuperation, his or her care generally should be the responsibility of the family.
- The school principal will ensure that families understand the school's support procedures.
- Through enrolment processes we will identify a child or student has any individual emergency or routine health and personal care support needs, such as: predictable emergency first aid associated with, for example, anaphylaxis (severe, life threatening allergy), seizure management or diabetes routine supervision for health care safety, such as supervision of medication personal care, including assistance with personal hygiene, continence care, eating and drinking transfers and positioning, and use of health related equipment.
- Parents/carers are primarily responsible for the health and wellbeing of their children.
- First Aid support in the school will be provided in response to unpredictable illness or injury.
- FCS has procedures for supporting student health for students with identified health needs and will provide a basic first aid response to ill or injured



students due to unforeseen circumstances and requiring emergency assistance.

- The first-aider will seek emergency assistance in situations where his or her training is not sufficient to keep the student safe. First-aid trained staff should not have to wait for parent or guardian approval to take this emergency action. Delays could compromise safety. The first - aider should, however, notify the child's or student's emergency contact person as a matter of priority to inform him or her of the action taken.
- It is the Principal's responsibility to:
 - alert parents to the need for health care plans if children or students need individual support
 - develop, monitor and review the school's health support procedures to manage health support planning with the Lead First Aiders.
 - involve relevant teachers in health support planning
 - manage confidentiality
 - ensure staff training requirements are fulfilled
- If there is an indication that individual health care may be needed by a student, the parent/carer should be asked to provide a health care plan, written by a relevant health professional. The care plan should document recommended emergency and routine health and personal care support for the child or student. Information about medical conditions (such as asthma, epilepsy and incontinence) must be provided by a doctor or, in some cases, a clinical nurse consultant working under the direction of a doctor. A therapist (for example, a physiotherapist or a speech pathologist) will usually document information about therapeutic measures such as transfers and positioning, and mealtime assistance.
- Some students will have a health care need identified after enrolment. The same steps should be followed. An interim health support plan might be needed.
- It is the responsibility of parents / carers to:
 - provide relevant health care information to the school
 - liaise with health professionals to provide care plans which create minimum disruption to learning programs
 - assist children or students for whom they are responsible to self-manage, as much as is safe and practical, their health and personal care needs
- It is the responsibility of staff to:



- administer first aid for unpredictable illness or injury or organise someone who can
- coordinate provision of first aid, including monitoring of equipment and facilities administer additional individual first aid support as negotiated (for example, administration of adrenaline via Epi-Pen for anaphylaxis)
- The school will nominate staff to be trained in first aid able to treat unpredictable illness or injury.
- One member of staff will be delegated the task of Lead First Aider at each campus and will be responsible for coordinating first aid procedures, and maintaining and securing the contents of the school's first aid kit. A relief staff member will be nominated in the event of the absence of the first aid coordinator. Other staff with first aid qualifications will be identified and available to assist.

Policy Endorsement

This Policy has been endorsed by the FCS Governing Body.

Date: September 2023

Review Date: September 2025

Review Cycle. Every 2 years

Exceptions: This Policy may be reviewed earlier than the date stated subject to circumstance.