

Lyndale Greens Primary School

ANAPHYLAXIS POLICY

2019

PURPOSE

To explain to Lyndale Greens Primary School (LGPS) parents, carers, staff and students the processes and procedures in place to support students diagnosed as being at risk of suffering from anaphylaxis. This policy also ensures that **LYNDALE GREENS PRIMARY SCHOOL (LGPS)** is compliant with Ministerial Order 706 and the Department's guidelines for anaphylaxis management.

SCOPE

This policy applies to:

- all staff, including casual relief staff and volunteers
- all students who have been diagnosed with anaphylaxis or who may require emergency treatment for an anaphylactic reaction and their parents and carers.

POLICY

School Statement

LYNDALE GREENS PRIMARY SCHOOL (LGPS) will comply with Ministerial Order 706 and the associated guidelines published by the Department of Education and Training.

Anaphylaxis

Anaphylaxis is a severe allergic reaction that occurs after exposure to an allergen. The most common allergens for school aged children are nuts, eggs, cow's milk, fish, shellfish, wheat, soy, sesame, latex, certain insect stings and medications.

Symptoms

Signs and symptoms of a mild to moderate allergic reactions can include:

- swelling of the lips, face and eyes
- hives or welts
- tingling in the mouth

Signs and symptoms of anaphylaxis, a severe allergic reaction, can include:

- difficult/noisy breathing
- swelling of tongue
- difficulty talking and/or hoarse voice
- wheeze or persistent cough
- persistent dizziness or collapse
- student appears pale or floppy
- abdominal pain and/or vomiting

Symptoms usually develop within ten minutes and up to two hours after exposure to an allergen, but can appear within a few minutes.

Treatment

Adrenaline given as an injection into the muscle of the outer mid-thigh is the first aid treatment for anaphylaxis.

Individuals diagnosed as being at risk of anaphylaxis are prescribed an adrenaline autoinjector for use in an emergency. These adrenaline autoinjectors are designed so that anyone can use them in an emergency.

Individual Anaphylaxis Management Plans

All students at LYNDALE GREENS PRIMARY SCHOOL (LGPS) who are diagnosed as being at risk of suffering from an anaphylactic reaction by a medical practitioner must have an Individual Anaphylaxis Management Plan. When notified of an anaphylaxis diagnosis, the principal or their nominated delegate of LYNDALE GREENS PRIMARY SCHOOL (LGPS) is responsible for developing a plan in consultation with the student's parents/carers.

Where necessary, an Individual Anaphylaxis Management Plan will be in place as soon as practicable after a student enrolls at LYNDALE GREENS PRIMARY SCHOOL (LGPS) and where possible, before the student's first day.

Parents and carers must:

- obtain an ASCIA (Australasian Society of Clinical Immunology and Allergy) Action Plan for Anaphylaxis from the student's medical practitioner and provide a copy to the school as soon as practicable
- immediately inform the school in writing if there is a relevant change in the student's medical condition and obtain an updated ASCIA Action Plan for Anaphylaxis
- provide an up to date photo of the student for the ASCIA Action Plan for Anaphylaxis when that Plan is provided to the school and each time it is reviewed
- provide the school with a current adrenaline autoinjector for the student that is not expired
- participate in annual reviews of the student's Plan.

Each student's Individual Anaphylaxis Management Plan must include:

- information about the student's medical condition that relates to allergy and the potential for anaphylactic reaction, including the type of allergies the student has
- information about the signs or symptoms the student might exhibit in the event of an allergic reaction based on a written diagnosis from a medical practitioner
- strategies to minimise the risk of exposure to known allergens while the student is under the care or supervision of school staff, including in the school yard, at camps and excursions, or at special events conducted, organised or attended by the school
- the name of the person(s) responsible for implementing the risk minimisation strategies which have been identified in the Plan
- information about where the student's medication will be stored
- the student's emergency contact details
- an up-to-date ASCIA Action Plan for Anaphylaxis completed by the student's medical practitioner.

Review and updates to Individual Anaphylaxis Plans

A student's Individual Anaphylaxis Plan will be reviewed and updated on an annual basis in consultation with the student's parents/carers. The plan will also be reviewed and, where necessary, updated in the following circumstances:

- as soon as practicable after the student has an anaphylactic reaction at school
- if the student's medical condition, insofar as it relates to allergy and the potential for anaphylactic reaction, changes
- when the student is participating in an off-site activity, including camps and excursions, or at special events including fetes and concerts.

Our school may also consider updating a student's Individual Anaphylaxis Management Plan if there is an identified and significant increase in the student's potential risk of exposure to allergens at school.

Location of plans and adrenaline autoinjectors

A copy of each student's Individual Anaphylaxis Management Plan will be stored with their ASCIA Action Plan for Anaphylaxis in their student file and their classroom. Whilst some students keep their adrenaline autoinjector on their person, medication for those that do not will be stored and labelled with their name at the First Aid Room located in the Administration Building, together with adrenaline autoinjectors for general use.

Risk Minimisation Strategies

To reduce the risk of a student suffering from an anaphylactic reaction at LYNDALE GREENS PRIMARY SCHOOL (LGPS),

- staff and students are regularly reminded to wash their hands after eating
- students are discouraged from sharing food
- In addition to regular staff, CRTs will be made aware of at risk students
- year groups will be informed of potential allergens that must be avoided in advance of class parties, events or birthdays
- a general use EpiPen will be stored at the First Aid Room, and in the yard duty bag for ease of access
- Attention will be paid to include epi pens on any excursions

Adrenaline autoinjectors for general use

LYNDALE GREENS PRIMARY SCHOOL (LGPS) will maintain **1-2 backup** adrenaline autoinjectors.

Adrenaline autoinjectors for general use will be stored at the First Aid Room and labelled "**general use**".

The principal is responsible for arranging the purchase of adrenaline auto-injectors for general use, and will consider:

- the number of students enrolled at LYNDALE GREENS PRIMARY SCHOOL (LGPS) at risk of anaphylaxis
- the accessibility of adrenaline auto-injectors supplied by parents
- the availability of a sufficient supply of auto-adrenaline injectors for general use in different locations at the school, as well as at camps, excursions and events
- the limited life span of adrenaline auto-injectors, and the need for general use adrenaline auto-injectors to be replaced when used or prior to expiry.

Emergency Response

In the event of an anaphylactic reaction, the emergency response procedures in this policy must be followed, together with the school's general first aid procedures, emergency response procedures and the student's Individual Anaphylaxis Management Plan.

A complete and up to date list of students identified as being at risk of anaphylaxis is maintained by the LYNDALE GREENS PRIMARY SCHOOL (LGPS) Office/First Aid Manager. For camps, excursions and special events, a designated staff member will be responsible for maintaining a list of students at risk of anaphylaxis attending the special event, together with their Individual Anaphylaxis Management Plans and adrenaline autoinjectors, where appropriate.

If a student experiences an anaphylactic reaction at school or during a school activity, school staff must:

Step	Action
1.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ring 000
2.	Administer an EpiPen or EpiPen Jr (if the student is under 20kg) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Remove from plastic container• Form a fist around the EpiPen and pull of the blue safety release (cap)• Place orange end against the student's outer mid-thigh (with or without clothing)• Push down hard until a click is heard or felt and hold in place for 3 seconds• Remove EpiPen• Note the time the EpiPen is administered

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retain the used EpiPen to be handed to ambulance paramedics along with the time of administration
3.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lay the person flat Do not allow them to stand or walk If breathing is difficult, allow them to sit Be calm and reassuring Do not leave them alone Seek assistance from another staff member or reliable student to locate the student's adrenaline autoinjector or the school's general use autoinjector, and the student's Individual Anaphylaxis Management Plan, stored at the First Aid Room or the classroom (whichever is closer) <p>If the student's plan is not immediately available, or they appear to be experiencing a first time reaction, follow steps 2 to 5</p>
4.	If there is no improvement or severe symptoms progress (as described in the ASCIA Action Plan for Anaphylaxis), further adrenaline doses may be administered every five minutes, if other adrenaline autoinjectors are available.
5.	Contact the student's emergency contacts.

If a student appears to be having a severe allergic reaction, but has not been previously diagnosed with an allergy or being at risk of anaphylaxis, school staff should follow steps 2 – 5 as above.

Communication Plan

This policy will be available on LYNDALE GREENS PRIMARY SCHOOL (LGPS)'s website so that parents and other members of the school community can easily access information about LYNDALE GREENS PRIMARY SCHOOL (LGPS)'s anaphylaxis management procedures. ***The parents and carers of students who are enrolled at LYNDALE GREENS PRIMARY SCHOOL (LGPS) and are identified as being at risk of anaphylaxis will also be provided with a copy of this policy.***

The Principal or their nominated representative is responsible for ensuring that all relevant staff, including casual relief staff and volunteers are aware of this policy and LYNDALE GREENS PRIMARY SCHOOL (LGPS)'s procedures for anaphylaxis management. Casual relief staff and volunteers who are responsible for the care and/or supervision of students who are identified as being at risk of anaphylaxis will also receive a verbal briefing on this policy.

Staff training

Staff at LYNDALE GREENS PRIMARY SCHOOL (LGPS) will receive appropriate training in anaphylaxis management, consistent with the Department's *Anaphylaxis Guidelines*. Staff should familiarise themselves with these guidelines.

When a new student enrolls at LYNDALE GREENS PRIMARY SCHOOL (LGPS) who is at risk of anaphylaxis, the principal will develop an interim plan in consultation with the student's parents and ensure that appropriate staff are trained and briefed as soon as possible.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- School Policy and Advisory Guide:
 - [Anaphylaxis](#)
 - [Anaphylaxis management in schools](#)
- Allergy & Anaphylaxis Australia: [Risk minimisation strategies](#)
- ASCIA Guidelines: [Schooling and childcare](#)
- Royal Children's Hospital: [Allergy and immunology](#)

REVIEW CYLCE AND EVALUATION

This policy was last updated on **27th March 2019** and is scheduled for review in March 2020

Key Reviewer	Date Ratified 27th March 2019	Next Review Scheduled
Principal	Lyndale Greens Primary School School Council March 27th 2019	
Victoria Golding Principal	Imran Maniar (current) School Council President	