



Mount Lilydale Mercy College Anaphylaxis Policy

1. RATIONALE

- 1.1. Anaphylaxis is a severe and sudden allergic reaction when a person is exposed to an allergen. The most common allergens in children are eggs, peanuts, tree nuts, cow's milk, fish and shellfish, wheat, soy, and certain insect stings and medications.
- 1.2. Anaphylaxis is a serious health issue for a percentage of the population and the key to preventing an anaphylactic reaction by a student is knowledge, awareness, and planning.
- 1.3. All Mount Lilydale Mercy College (MLMC) staff have a duty of care to take reasonable steps to protect a student in their care from risks of injury that are reasonably foreseeable. In relation to anaphylaxis management, MLMC and its staff have a duty of care to take reasonable steps to inform themselves as to whether an enrolled student is at risk of anaphylaxis. To discharge this duty of care, MLMC staff are to comply with their obligations under the Parliamentary Act, the Order and Guidelines.
- 1.4. Ministerial Order 706: Anaphylaxis Management in Victorian Schools came into effect on April 22, 2014. The Mount Lilydale Mercy College Anaphylaxis Policy and the accompanying Implementation Guidelines comply with the Legislative and Policy requirements of Order 706.

2. SCOPE

- 2.1. All MLMC staff are to refer to this Policy and the Implementation Guidelines and undertake the required actions for all activities that involve supervision and instruction of students.

3. PURPOSE

- 3.1. To provide a safe and supportive environment in which students at risk of anaphylaxis can participate in all aspects of their schooling.
- 3.2. To raise awareness about anaphylaxis and the College's anaphylaxis management policy in the MLMC community.
- 3.3. To engage with parents/carers of students at risk of anaphylaxis in assessing risks and developing risk minimisation and management strategies.
- 3.4. To ensure that each staff member has adequate knowledge about allergies, anaphylaxis, and the College's policy and procedures in responding to an anaphylactic reaction.

4. POLICY STATEMENT

- 4.1. It is the policy at MLMC that the wellbeing of students at risk of anaphylaxis is optimised through the following measures:
- 4.1.1. The annual conduct of a Risk Management Audit of the College.
 - 4.1.2. The development of individual management plans for all students who have been diagnosed by a medical practitioner as being at risk of anaphylaxis. This plan should be reviewed annually and in place when the student commences at the College.
 - 4.1.3. The conduct of a staff education and training program.
 - 4.1.4. The conduct of a parent education program through the College newsletter.
 - 4.1.5. The use of strategies to minimise the risk of exposure to allergens while the student is under the care or supervision of MLMC staff, for in-school and out of school settings, including camps and excursions.

5. GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- 5.1. To provide a safe and supportive environment in which students at risk of anaphylaxis can participate in all aspects of their schooling.
- 5.2. To raise awareness about anaphylaxis and the College's anaphylaxis management policy in the MLMC community.
- 5.3. To engage with parents/carers of students at risk of anaphylaxis in assessing risks and developing risk minimisation and management strategies.

6. REVIEW HISTORY

Version	Date Released	Next Review	Author	Authorised by:
2.0	August 2023	August 2025	Deputy Principal Pastoral Care	MLMC Advisory Council

Version control added to policy commencing with V2.0 All previous versions are called 1.0 and have been archived and stored accordingly.

Note: Implementation Guidelines is a separate document which outlines the procedures needed to implement the policy