



**HELENA RIVER
STEINER SCHOOL**

Nut Awareness Policy

Version No.	Date Review Due	Board Approved and Date Published	Changes Made	Author of Changes
1		05/2017	Creation of Policy	TM
2		01/2020	Minor formatting changes only	TM
3	05/2021			



Table of Contents

1	Policy.....	3
2	Procedure.....	3
2.1	Action by Parents.....	3
2.2	Action by Teachers.....	3
2.3	Action by Education Coordinator (Principal)	4
2.4	Responding To A Severe Allergic Reaction Incident	4
3	Post Incident Support	5
4	References	5
5	Appendices.....	5
5.1	Appendix I: Anaphylaxis Management Guidelines for WA Schools.....	5

1 POLICY

Helena River Steiner School (HRSS) is a 'Nut Aware School'. The school is committed to providing a safe environment for all students, staff and visitors. The school aims to protect those students who suffer from severe nut allergies and could be in danger of life-threatening anaphylactic reaction.

The school will endeavour to educate the school community of the risks associated with anaphylaxis and to implement practical, age-appropriate strategies to minimise exposure to known allergens.

It is realized that it is not possible to eliminate all food with traces of allergenic foods such as milk products, egg and nuts.

2 PROCEDURE

The same procedures will be followed as in the 'Management of Allergy Reactions Policy'. Specifically relating to Nut Allergy, the following procedures will be followed;

2.1 Action by Parents

- Parents must provide information concerning a student with a nut allergy in the form of an ASCIA Anaphylaxis Action Plan when the student starts school and provide annual updates;
- Parents are expected to educate the anaphylactic-prone student in the self-management of their food allergy e.g. safe and unsafe food, strategies for avoiding exposure to unsafe foods, symptoms of allergic reactions, how and when to tell an adult;
- Parents must provide bottled drinks and lunch boxes clearly labelled with the name of the child for whom they are intended.

2.2 Action by Teachers

- ASCIA Action Plans of students in their class will be on display in the classroom;
- Teachers will inform class parents of a child in the class with a nut allergy;
- Nut products are not encouraged in the class where a student has a nut allergy. This includes peanuts, cashews, walnuts, almonds and all other tree nuts and products containing nuts or "traces of" them.
- Students are asked to wash hands before and after eating where appropriate;
- Students will be educated about nut awareness;
- There will be no trading and sharing of food, food utensils and food containers;
- The use of food in crafts, cooking and science experiments will be considered and restricted where necessary;
- Staff will be aware of the need to prevent cross contamination during the handling of food, and also in the cleaning of food preparation areas and cooking utensils.

2.3 Action by Education Coordinator (Principal)

- This policy is to be included in student and staff handbooks and reinforced via newsletters;
- Periodic reviews of the school's practices will take place to ensure that HRSS is doing all that is possible to keep the students safe;
- At time of enrollment, the Student Database will be updated to include Anaphylaxis information where required;
- Casual relief staff will be informed of any students in the class who are at risk of anaphylaxis and the steps required for prevention and emergency response;
- Parents creating food for market days, festival or open days will be reminded via the newsletter and through the P & F that the ingredients must be clearly displayed.

2.4 Responding To A Severe Allergic Reaction Incident

Where possible, only staff with training in the administration of an epi-pen should administer the device. However, epi-pens are designed for anyone to use and in the event of an emergency it may be administered by any person, following the instructions in the student's ASCIA Anaphylaxis Action Plan.

If a student has a severe allergic reaction,

- Staff will follow the child's ASCIA Anaphylaxis Action Plan;
- Ambulance will be called*

If a student has a severe allergic reaction, BUT HAS NOT BEEN PREVIOUSLY DIAGNOSED with the allergy or as being at risk of anaphylaxis, the following action should be taken:

If the school HAS an epi-pen for general use,

- Staff must administer the adrenaline following the instructions on the General ASCIA Anaphylaxis Action Plan (orange) or child's ASCIA Anaphylaxis Action Plan stored with the device;
- Ambulance will be called*

If the school DOES NOT have an epi-pen for general use,

- 000 will be called immediately;
- Follow any instructions given by emergency services, as well as the school's first aid emergency procedures.

**In all cases, if an epi-pen is used, staff must call an ambulance and the used epi-pen must be given to ambulance staff.*

If an ambulance service is not immediately available, the Education Coordinator will arrange for the student to be transported to a health service or medical practitioner. Two people will travel with the student, one to drive and the other to monitor the health of the student. Parents/guardians should also be advised of the incident as soon as possible.

3 POST INCIDENT SUPPORT

The Teacher/Staff involved in the incident, will complete an Incident Report as required by the school. Further to this, the school will consider that an anaphylactic reaction can be a very traumatic experience for the student, staff, others witnessing the reaction, and parents/guardians.

In the event of an anaphylactic reaction, students and staff may benefit from a debriefing and/or post-incident counselling, provided, for example, by the school nurse, school psychologist or counselling service. This will be organised by the Education Coordinator.

4 REFERENCES

Related Documents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management of Allergic Reactions – Anaphylaxis Policy • Administration of Prescribed Medicines Policy • Food and Nutrition Policy • Food Handling and Storage Policy • Asthma Policy
Links With	TBA
Related Legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Civil Liability Act 2002 (WA) • Occupational Safety and Health Act 1984 (WA) • Privacy Act 1988 (Cth) • Poisons Act 1964 (WA) and Poisons Regulations 1965 (WA) • School Education Act 1999 (WA) and School Education Regulations 2000 (WA)
Appendices	Appendix I: Anaphylaxis Management Guidelines for WA Schools

5 APPENDICES

5.1 Appendix I: Anaphylaxis Management Guidelines for WA Schools

<http://www.det.wa.edu.au/studentsupport/behaviourandwellbeing/detcms/school-support-programs/behaviour-and-wellbeing/binary-files/anaphylaxis-management-guidelines-for-wa-schools.en?oid=com.arsdigita.cms.contenttypes.FileStorageItem-id-8850149>