



Policy: **FIRST AID**

Approved at School Council Meeting: 2020 Review: 2022

1. Introduction

The school has procedures for supporting student health for students with identified health needs and will provide a basic first aid response as set out in the procedure below to ill or injured students due to **unforeseen circumstances** and requiring **emergency** assistance.

These procedures have been communicated to all staff and are available for reference from the school office.

2. First Aid Officers

Consistent with the Department's First Aid Policy and Procedures, the school will allocate staff member/s as First Aid Officer/s. The names and details of First Aid Officers, including their level of first aid will be displayed on the First Aid Summary Sheet displayed in both sick bay and the staffroom.

2.1 First Aid Officer Duties

The First Aid Officer/s is required to undertake a coordinating role maintaining standard medical service provision, student medical records and parent notifications.

Their specific duties include:

- Participating in the risk management process within the school as part of the school's OHS team. This may include contributing to risk management solutions and providing feedback on injury reports and first aid register data to identify persistent or serious hazards.
- Providing first aid emergency awareness training for staff including emergency notification processes, a list of responsible officers and provision of emergency phone numbers.
- Coordinating and maintaining first aid room and first aid kits
- Providing first aid services commensurate with competency and training. This may include all or some of emergency life support including response to life threatening conditions which may occur in the school (e.g. cardiac arrest or respiratory difficulties associated with asthma), management of severe bleeding, basic wound care, fractures, soft tissue injury.
- Recording all first aid treatment. A copy of treatment provided shall be forwarded with the patient where further assistance is sought. The first aider should respect the confidential nature of any information given.
- Providing input on first aid requirements for excursions and camps.

- Following a students' Anaphylaxis, Asthma or Allergy Reaction Action Plans when needed

The First Aid Officer/s will be available at the school during normal working hours and at other times when authorised Department programs are being conducted.

Where possible, only staff with first aid qualifications will provide first aid. However, in an emergency other **staff may be required to help within their level of competency.**

3. Procedures for Medical Treatment

In the event of a student requiring medical attention, an attempt will be made to contact the parents/guardians before calling for medical attention except in an extreme emergency.

In serious cases, parents/guardians will always be informed as quickly as possible of their child's condition and of the actions taken by the school.

All accidents and injuries will be recorded on the Department's injury management system on CASES21.

A Record of First Aid Treatment will be kept in the Sick Bay and information recorded for all students treated in the Sick Bay. A slip will be filled in and sent home with the student indicating date and time of attendance in the Sick Bay, the treatment given and the person administering the first aid.

It is the policy of the school that all injuries to the head are reported to the Principal and First Aid Officer and that parents/emergency contacts are contacted regarding the injury.

First aid kits will be available for all groups that leave the school on excursions. The content of these kits will be dependent on the nature of the activities, the number of students and staff, and the location of the excursion.

Portable first aid kits will be available for staff on yard duty. These kits will contain:

- School Epipen
- Students' personal asthma pack (including ventolin and spacer)
- a pair of single use plastic gloves
- band-aids
- First Aid passes

4. First Aid Kit Contents

Consistent with the Department's First Aid Policy and Procedures the school will maintain a First Aid Kit that includes the following items:

- wound cleaning equipment
 - gauze swabs:
 - sterile saline ampoules
 - disposable towels for cleaning dirt from skin surrounding a wound

- wound dressing equipment
 - sterile, non-adhesive dressings, individually packed
 - combine pads
 - non-allergenic plain adhesive strips, without antiseptic on the dressing, for smaller cuts and grazes
 - steri-strips for holding deep cuts together in preparation for stitching
 - non-allergenic paper type tape for attaching dressings
 - conforming bandages for attaching dressings in the absence of tape or in the case of extremely sensitive skin
- bandages
 - triangular bandages, for slings, pads for bleeding or attaching dressings, splints, etc
 - conforming bandages
- lotions and ointments
 - cuts and abrasions should be cleaned initially under running water followed by deeper and more serious wounds being cleaned with sterile saline prior to dressing. Antiseptics are not recommended
 - any sun screen, with a sun protection factor of SPF30
 - single use sterile saline ampoules for the irrigation of eyes
 - creams and lotions, other than those in aqueous or gel form, are not recommended in the first aid treatment of wounds or burns
 - asthma equipment (which should be in all major portable kits, camping kits, sports kits, etc)
 - blue reliever puffer (e.g. Ventolin) that is in date
 - spacer device
 - alcohol wipes
 - EpiPen

Other equipment includes:

- single use gloves – these are essential for all kits and should be available for teachers to carry with them, particularly while on yard duty
- one medicine measure for use with prescribed medications
- scissors
- disposable splinter probes and a sharps container for waste
- disposable tweezers
- disposable hand towels
- disposable ice packs for portable kits
- adhesive sanitary pads, as a backup for personal supplies
- blanket and sheet, including a thermal accident blanket for portable kits
- one box of paper tissues
- paper towel for wiping up blood spills
- single use plastic rubbish bags that can be sealed, for used swabs and a separate waste disposal bin suitable for taking biohazard waste (note: Biohazard waste should be burnt and there are several companies that will handle bulk biohazard waste)
- ice cream containers or emesis bags for vomit.

5. Care for ill students

Students who are unwell should not attend school.

If a student becomes unwell during the school day they may be directed to the sick bay and monitored by staff. Depending on the nature of their symptoms, staff may contact parents/carers or an emergency contact person to ask them to collect the student.

First aid management

If there is a situation or incident which occurs at school or a school activity which requires first aid to be administered to a student:

- Staff who have been trained in first aid will administer first aid in accordance with their training. In an emergency situation, other staff may assist in the administration of first aid within their level of competence.
- In a medical emergency, staff may take emergency action and do not need to obtain parent/carer consent to do so. Staff may contact Triple Zero “000” for emergency medical services at any time.
- Staff may also contact NURSE-ON-CALL (on 1300 60 60 24) in an emergency. NURSE-ON-CALL provides immediate, expert health advice from a registered nurse and is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- If first aid is administered for a minor injury or condition, Shepparton East PS will notify parents/carers by sending a note home to parents.
- If first aid is administered for a serious injury or condition, or in an emergency situation, school staff will attempt to contact parents/carers or emergency contacts as soon as reasonably practical.
- If staff providing first aid determine that an emergency response is not required but that medical advice is needed, school staff will ask parents/carers, or an emergency contact person, to collect the student and recommend that advice is sought from a medical practitioner.
- Whenever first aid treatment has been administered to a student Shepparton East PS will:
 - record the incident on CASES21
 - if first aid was administered in a medical emergency, report the incident to the Department’s Security Services Unit on 03 9859 6266.

In accordance with guidance from the Department of Education and Training, analgesics, including paracetamol and aspirin, will not be stored at school or provided as a standard first aid treatments. This is because they can mask signs of serious illness or injury.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

See: *Anaphylaxis, Asthma Policies*

REVIEW CYCLE

This policy was last updated on October 20th 2020 and is scheduled for review in 2022.