St Elizabeth’s Community wants to take reasonable and practical measures to minimise the risk of children having anaphylactic reactions whilst they are at school or on school related activities. (The most common allergies are to nuts especially peanuts, eggs, cow’s milk, fish and shellfish, wheat, soy, sesame, latex, certain insect stings and medication.)

**For the Affected Student**

It is the responsibility of the school to:

- To take steps to make our school environment as safe as possible for children who are at risk of having an anaphylactic response so that they can participate equally in all activities.
- To inform and educate our community about the dangers of anaphylactic reactions so that the level of community awareness is proactive and supportive of students with this condition
- To engage with the parents/guardians of children at risk of anaphylaxis in assessing the risks, developing risk minimisation strategies and management strategies for the student.
- To ensure that each relevant staff member has adequate knowledge about allergies, anaphylaxis and the school’s policy and procedures in responding to an anaphylactic reaction.

**Implementation**

For the Affected Student

It is the responsibility of the school to:

- Collect information at enrolment regarding students who have an allergy and to ask parents to provide information regarding their condition as diagnosed by a medical practitioner.
- The Principal will set in place a management plan for the student which will come into effect from their first day at school. The plan will provide information about the Doctor’s diagnosis including the type of allergy or allergies that the student has along with strategies to minimise the risk of exposure to the trigger or triggers. This plan will be implemented whilst the child is at school or on school activities. The plan will include an up to date photo of the child. The plan will be reviewed annually or if the condition changes or immediately after the child suffers an anaphylactic reaction.

It is the responsibility of the parent or guardian to:

- Provide an unexpired EpiPen whilst they’re at risk student is at school or on school activities.
- Provide children at risk with a Medic-Alert bracelet so they can be easily identified
- Provide the emergency procedures plan
- Provide alternative treats for occasions where the children share food eg. A birthday cake
- Clearly label Tuck shop orders to indicate any food related allergy
- Educate their child about general avoidance measures such as never sharing food with another person.
- Inform the school if their child’s medical condition changes and if relevant provide an updated emergency plan with input from their medical practitioner.
- Provide an updated photo of the student for the emergency plan
- Educate children at risk to only eat snack food and lunches prepared at home and not to trade or share food, food utensils or food containers.
- Inform the Out of School Hours Care of the need for an Anaphylaxis Action Plan and a Management Policy.
For the Community

- The Principal will be responsible for informing the community about anaphylaxis and the school’s anaphylaxis management policy.
- Volunteers and casual teaching staff will be informed of the students at risk and their role in responding to an anaphylactic reaction of a student in their care.
- All staff will be briefed once a semester of changes to the policy, causes, treatments and symptoms of anaphylaxis, the students affected and the location of their medication, use of an epipen and the school’s first aid and emergency procedures (A DVD is supplied for this purpose)

Staff Training and Emergency Response

- Staff who conduct classes which students at risk attend must have up to date training in an anaphylaxis management training course.
- At all times the Principal must ensure that there is a trained staff member present while at risk children are attending school activities.
- The Principal will identify the school staff to be trained and training will take place before the child starts school. If this is not possible, an interim plan will be developed in consultation with parents.
- The school’s first aid procedures and emergency procedures plan will be followed in response to an anaphylactic reaction.
- Epipens will be stored in the First Aid Room and clearly labelled with students name and Anaphylaxis Management Plan
- Children at risk will be clearly identified and their photo will be displayed in the First Aid Room, Tuck shop, Duty Bags, Staffroom and Classroom folder.

Classroom Practice for Those with At-Risk Children

- Encourage hand washing before food is eaten
- Ensure that children are educated about the need to minimise the risk of bringing allergy triggers such as nuts to school and a class rule that states that no children are to share food with the at-risk student.
- Ensure that at risk children’s lunches are kept separate to other children's lunches including times when the children are on an excursion.

The Community Will Be Asked To Assist By:

- Being aware of situations where children may suffer from an anaphylactic reaction and taking steps to minimise risks. eg: labelling bottles, lunchboxes and drink containers with each child’s name.
- Parents/guardians of children placed in a class with a student deemed at risk of a severe anaphylactic reaction will be asked not to bring to school foods which might place their classmate in danger.(ie: Products which are made of nuts eg. Raw or cooked nuts, Nutella, Peanut Butter, Muesli bars, cakes, biscuits, slices which contain nuts.)
- Ensuring that children attending school camp or excursions do not take foodstuffs with them that contain nuts or other products specific to a child at risk of anaphylaxis who is attending the activity.

School Tuckshop

- The canteen will not purchase or sell products containing nuts but may sell products labelled “This product may contain traces of nuts”
- The tuckshop will be informed of children with food allergies and photos of at risk students will be displayed for tuckshop staff to view.