



St Elizabeth's is a school which operates with the consent of the Catholic Archbishop of Melbourne and is owned, operated and governed by Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools Ltd (MACS).

Purpose

This policy is aligned with the First Aid Policy for MACS schools. The policy sets out the actions and resources required in St Elizabeth's to ensure adequate first aid provision for students, staff and others in the school environment and when engaged in school approved activities.

Scope

This policy applies to students, staff, families and others at St Elizabeth's.

Principles

The following principles underpin this policy:

- our school has a responsibility to ensure a safe working and learning for all members of school communities
- the principal and all staff have a duty of care to all students and the provision of adequate facilities and resources supports this in the school.

Policy

St Elizabeth's is responsible for providing first aid assistance to students in the event of illness or a medical emergency.

First aid facilities

The principal ensures that first aid facilities are in place to meet the needs of staff, students and others in school environments and for school approved activities, including for off-site activities such as camps and excursions, and out of hours school events. The area has appropriate signage and is readily identified as the First Aid room. In this area, the First aid facilities are supervised by Administration staff before and after school and during class time and trained staff members during break times.

The First Aid room can be located at the school office, which is made know to all staff, students and parents, where it can easily accommodate up to 4-5 students at a time. The First Aid room can be easily located by vehicles if someone were to be transported offsite.

The First Aid room clearly displays all know medical conditions of students, which outlines the symptoms, triggers and procedures to be followed to support each student. This is also where all medications are stored in clearly labelled storage containers, where the medication authority form accompanies it.

Any medications removed from the First Aid room need to be signed out by a staff member and then signed back in when it is returned. The register for this can be found on the medication door.

All First supplies are clearly labelled and easily accessible on the bench and within cupboards

Sufficient staff must be trained under the provisions of the *Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004* (Vic.) to ensure adequate provision of first aid, based on the number of students in the school or engaged in the activities, the activities being undertaken and the school environment.

First aid kits

- All First Aid kits are stored in the Administration cupboard and to be taken to all offsite activities; one per bus. The staff attending the offsite activity are responsible for organising this. These First Aid Kits are full kits that have been purchased from St John Ambulance.
- The First Aid kit, along with the First Aid room supplies are regularly checked by Administration, where any missing items are replenished. The supplies are purchased from First Aid distributors or general items from the pharmacy or supermarket.

First aid staff and training

First aid officers provide initial care to injured students, staff or others in accordance with their level of training. They are not required to diagnose conditions or provide ongoing medical assistance.

The principal or their delegate will ensure that designated first aid officers and general staff have completed the recognised training. A first aid officer with current first aid qualifications must always be available to respond and assist an ill or injured person.

Where appropriate, a first aid officer will refer the ill or injured person to additional medical advice or assistance.

Additional staff with relevant training must be available depending on the student population, proximity to medical facilities, and the nature of activities being undertaken.

Training for anaphylaxis management is undertaken by all staff in the school.

A register of all first aid training is kept in the school the Principal/Deputy Principal.

All staff employed at the school complete the annual requirements for Asthma, Anaphylaxis and CPR; with all staff being Level 2 trained in First Aid every three years. All training is provided by the school at no cost to the staff members.

Any students who have other medical conditions that require specific training, the school will identify all the staff who require training and provide to those staff and provide all other staff with information on how they can support this student e.g. diabetes, epilepsy etc.

Administration of First Aid

School staff are responsible for providing first aid assistance to students in the event of illness or a medical emergency.

Our school staff who have been trained will administer first aid in accordance with their training. Trained staff can provide basic first aid with [DRSABCD](#).

In a medical emergency, staff take emergency action and do not need to obtain parent/carer consent to do so. Staff contact Triple Zero “000” for emergency medical services at any time.

On each occasion where first aid is administered to a student with a minor injury or condition, our school staff will notify parents/guardians/carers by contact details available at school. On each occasion where first aid is administered for a serious injury or condition, or in an emergency, school staff will attempt to contact parents/carers or emergency contacts as soon as reasonably practical.

School staff are to determine whether students presenting with infectious illnesses and their contacts require an [exclusion](#) period from school and abide by any minimum period in accordance with Department of Health.

Administration of First Aid for head injury

For students who have an impact to the head, suspected concussion, or observed concussion, our school staff can use [Concussion Recognition Tool 5 or recognised tool/app as chosen by the school](#) to help identify a suspected concussion.

If a student demonstrates symptoms of a [moderate to severe head injury](#) (neck pain or tenderness, double vision, weakness or tingling/burning in arms or legs, severe or increasing headache, seizure or convulsion, loss of consciousness, deteriorating conscious state, vomiting, increasingly restless, agitated or combative), the school is to call an ambulance immediately. If the [Concussion Recognition Tool 5 or recognised tool/app as chosen by the school](#) is used, the school must contact the parent/guardian/carer about the injury, even if the symptoms resolve. In the event of a suspected concussion, the parent/guardian/carer is asked to collect the student and have a medical assessment.

If a student has been diagnosed with a concussion/mild head injury, our schools will act on medical advice where this is provided to support a return to school and associated activities including participation in sport. A return to school meeting will be had with the parents and a plan will be devised and followed from the medical practitioners recommendations.

Communication with parents /guardians / carers

The school requires parents provide up-to-date and accurate medical information relating to students, including information about conditions such as anaphylaxis, asthma and diabetes. Parents are requested to provide this information annually, prior to camps and excursions and if the child's medical condition changes since the information was provided.

Records of incidents, injuries and first aid treatment are documented. First aid records are retained within the school and in line with MACS policies for information recordkeeping, retention and disposal.

An incident report will be completed when first aid is administered. This report will be kept in the school and a copy provided for the parent / guardian / carer of the student.

Parents / guardians / carers are notified as soon as possible if required to collect an ill or injured student from the school. When a parent / guardian / carer cannot be contacted, the principal will contact the emergency contact nominated by the parent / guardian / carer.

All parents at the beginning of the year are to update their child's medical profile on Operoo to ensure that the school is notified of all medical conditions of students. It is the parent's responsibility throughout the school year to update this if there are any changes.

When students attend camp, parents will be reminded to check the Operoo profile of their child to ensure it is correct and up to date. Parents are also notified on how they are to provide any medications their child may require during this time.

All injuries or illnesses that occur whilst a child is the care of the school will have their injury/illness and treatment documented in a First Aid form via Passtab. This information is then emailed to the parents at the end of the school day notifying the parent of all relevant information.

If a child has ANY type of head injury, the parent is notified immediately, where the parent is informed and asked to decide whether their child will remain at school or seek medical treatment.

Any student who is quite unwell or has a serious injury, and the first aid officers determine that they need to go home or seek medical assistance/treatment is also when parents will be notified.

This policy and other school policies and procedures for the distribution of medication and management of students with medical conditions are found on the school website.

Definitions

First aid

The emergency treatment provided to employees, students and others who suffer injury or illness while at work/school, using the facilities or materials available at the time. In the case of severe injury or illness, members of staff are not required to diagnose or treat the condition apart from carrying out the appropriate first aid procedures. Diagnosis and treatment are the responsibility of the ambulance officer or medical practitioners.

First aid officers

Staff members who have been trained in first aid and are designated to provide initial care of ill or injured staff, students or others.

Related policies and documents

Supporting documents

First Aid Risk Assessment – Template for Schools

First Aid Form – School and Parent/Guardian/Carer Record – Template for Schools

Related MACS policies and documents

Administration of Medication Policy

Anaphylaxis Policy

Excursion, Camps and Travel Policy

Medical Management Policy for MACS Schools

Medical Management Procedures for MACS Schools

OHS Policy – Schools

Resources

Department of Education First Aid Contents Checklist, available on the [First Aid for Students and Staff webpage](#)

[Department of Health – School Exclusion periods for primary schools](#)

[Department of Health – School Exclusion table](#)

[Murdoch Children’s Research Institute HeadCheck Concussion Recognition Support Tool](#)

[The Royal Children’s Hospital Melbourne Head Injury – return to school and sport](#)

[CECV Student Activity Locator](#)

[Asthma First Aid Poster](#)

[ASCIA First Aid Plan for Anaphylaxis](#)

[ASCIA Action Plan for Allergic Reactions](#)

[ASCIA Action Plan for Drug \(Medication\) Allergy](#)

[St John’s Ambulance First Aid fact sheets](#)

Legislation and standards

Education and Training Reform Regulations 2017 (Vic.)

Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004 (Vic.)

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