



<b>Staff</b>	<b>First Aid Policy</b>	<b>Date: February 2023</b>
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## PURPOSE

To ensure the school community understands our school's approach to first aid for students.

## SCOPE

First aid for anaphylaxis and asthma is provided for in our school's:

- *Anaphylaxis Policy*
- *Asthma Policy*

This policy does not include information on first aid requirements for COVID-19. Our school follows the Department's operational guidance for first aid management relating to COVID-19.

## POLICY

From time to time Merriang Special Developmental School (Merriang SDS) staff might need to administer first aid to students at school or school activities.

Parents/carers should be aware that the goal of first aid is not to diagnose or treat a condition.

### Staffing

The Principal will ensure that Merriang SDS has sufficient staff with the appropriate levels of first aid training to meet the first aid needs of the school community.

Our school's trained first aid officers are listed in our Emergency Management Plan (EMP). Our EMP includes the expiry dates of the training. The school allocates curriculum days every three years to ensure all staff, where possible are trained in first aid, cpr, asthma, anaphylaxis, and epilepsy to support student wellbeing.

This list is reviewed on an annual basis as part of the annual review of our Emergency Management Plan

### First aid kits

Merriang SDS will maintain:

- A major first aid kit which will be stored in each campus first aid room in a mobile trolley for evacuation purposes Merriang SDS Lalor Campus and South Morang campus each have a portable first aid kit/s which may be used for emergencies. The portable first aid kit/s will be

stored at the Later Years (in the first aid room), at the Early years (in the resource space close to classrooms)

- A first aid kit on each school bus
- smaller emergency first aid kit within each classroom
- first aid kits at each campus for yards

An designated staff member at each campus will be responsible for maintaining all first aid kits, ensuring they are managed in accordance with the Department's policy and guidance on first aid kits – refer to [First aid kits](#).

## 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 first aid room and monitored by a member of the class 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 room

Our school follows the Department's policy and guidance in relation to our first aid room to ensure it is safe, hygienic and appropriately equipped: [First aid rooms and sick bays](#).

## 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, Merriang SDS will notify parents/carers by sending a note home to parents unless above shoulders when parents will be contacted via phone
- 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 is administered to a student resulting from a student incident, injury or illness, Merriang SDS will:
  - record the provision of first aid treatment on the duplicate first aid form and enter the data on Sentral

- if care was provided in response to a medical emergency or reportable incident, follow the Department’s [Reporting and Managing School Incidents Policy](#), including reporting the incident to the Department’s Incident Support and Operations Centre on 1800 126 126 where required to under that policy.

In accordance with Department of Education and Training policy, 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. For further information refer to the Department’s Policy and Advisory Library: [Medication](#)

## COMMUNICATION

This policy will be communicated to our school community in the following ways:

- Available publicly on our school’s website
- Included in staff induction processes and staff training
- Included in staff handbook/manual
- Discussed at staff briefings/meetings as required
- Included in transition and enrolment packs
- Reminders in our school newsletter
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

## FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following Department policies and guidelines:

- [First Aid for Students and Staff](#)
- [Health Care Needs](#)
- [Infectious Diseases](#)
- [Blood Spills and Open Wounds](#)
- [Medication](#)
- [Syringe Disposals and Injuries](#)

The following school policies are also relevant to this First Aid Policy:

- Administration of Medication Policy
- Anaphylaxis Policy
- Asthma Policy
- Duty of Care Policy
- Health Care Needs Policy

## POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	February 2023
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	February 2025