



FIRST AID POLICY

PURPOSE

To ensure the staff and school community understand the approach Footscray North Primary School takes to first aid for students.

SCOPE

The Principal and all staff members have an obligation to be familiar with the school's first aid procedures and observe their duty of care to students by providing first aid treatment within the limits of their skill, expertise, training and responsibilities.

First aid for anaphylaxis [and asthma, diabetes and other specific medical conditions] is provided for in the school's:

- *Anaphylaxis Policy*
- *Asthma Policy*
- *Diabetes Management (Types 1 & 2) Policy*
- *Epilepsy & Seizure Policy*
- *Blood-Borne Viruses Policy*

DEFINITION

The goal of first aid is not to diagnose or treat the condition.

First aid involves emergency treatment and support to preserve life through clearing and maintaining open airways, restoring breathing or circulation, monitoring wellbeing until the person recovers or is transferred into the care of ambulance paramedic, doctor or nurse, protecting a person, particularly if they are unconscious, preventing a condition worsening and promoting recovery.

POLICY

From time to time Footscray North Primary School staff might need to administer first aid to students at school or school activities. The wellbeing of children is this school's highest priority.

The school also will support visitors to the school who are in need of first aid.

The school will support first aid by:

- ensuring the school's first aid needs are met
- providing:
- asthma kits
- first aid rooms
- major first aid kits

- portable first aid kits
- managing:
- blood spills and bleeding students
- syringe disposal/injuries

Note: To display a photo of a student and to describe their health care needs requires consent from parents/carers.

The First Aid Coordinator will undertake a range of responsibilities including:

- taking a lead role in supporting teachers and the Principal/Assistant Principal in health support planning
- having knowledge of:
 - all students with a support or management plan
 - the first aid response noted in the plans ensuring that children's emergency contact details are up to date
 - ensuring all medications supplied by the children are within their use-by date
 - working with staff to conduct regular:
 - reviews of management strategies
 - risk assessments
 - developing strategies to raise awareness in the school community about health and safety issues

Facilities

Facilities for first aid will allow for:

- precautions against infection
- reassurance and comfort, with a safe level of privacy; dignity; comfort and independence.
- employee and volunteer health, safety and welfare
- associated record keeping in accordance with privacy and confidentiality
- short-term supervision and the ability to summon further assistance if required

Adequate infection and prevention control **must** be practiced at all times when administering first aid or cleaning up blood or body fluids. The following infection control procedures must **always** be adhered to:

- cover cuts and abrasions with water proof occlusive dressing to avoid contamination of cuts/abrasions with another person's blood and/or body fluids
- wear protective gloves when in contact with body fluids, non-intact skin and mucous membranes
- wear a mask, eye protection and a gown where there is a risk of splashing blood or other body fluids
- remove any broken glass or sharp material with forceps or tongs and place in sharps container
- wash hands thoroughly after direct contact with injured person or blood/body fluids with warm soapy water, rinse, dry and sanitise hands using an alcohol-based rub or gel.

Where a blood/biological spill has occurred the following must be adhered to:

- isolate the area where the incident occurred
- clean up blood and other body fluids spills with disposable paper towels/tissues or by using a Biohazard Spill Kit
- use hospital grade disinfectant (use 5ml of bleach to 500ml of water) to sanitise the area
- dry the area with disposable paper towels/tissues after clean-up (as wet areas attract contaminants)
- where a spill occurs on carpet, shampoo as soon as possible. Do not use disinfectant. Steam cleaning may be used instead
- Items such as scissors and tweezers are to be cleaned and disinfected/sterilized after use.

Contaminated waste (e.g. dressings, wipes, cleaning cloths, nappies, human tissue, and blood and laboratory waste) should be disposed of in:

- appropriate biohazard waste containers/bags; or
- in the general waste in suitably labelled bags (bags are to be double bagged); or

- Sanitary Waste Bins.

Sharps should be disposed of in a sharps container. All sharps containers must be compliant with AS 4031: Non reusable containers for the collection of sharps medical

Staffing

The Principal will ensure there is always a first aid officer who can assist an injured or ill person and has current qualifications covering all the school's first aid requirements.

Where possible, first aid will only be provided by staff who have been designated as the first aid providers. However, in an emergency, other staff may be required to help within their level of competence.

The Principal will ensure sufficient staff are trained in first aid under the provisions of the *Occupational Health & Safety Act 2004* and the DET's First Aid Policy and maintain a register of trained staff.

Please refer to the attached OH&S Minimum First Aid Facilities schedule.

Training includes basic first aid knowledge and where required additional first aid modules such as asthma management, administration of the EpiPen™ or specific training for excursions and other educational programs or activities.

For the names of the school's trained first aid officers please refer to the First Aid Register (copy attached).

First Aid Kits

The school will maintain:

- A major first aid kit which will be stored in the First Aid Room.
- An appropriate number of portable first aid which may be used for excursions, camps, or yard duty. The portable first aid kit/s will be stored in each wing of the school and in the First Aid Room.
- The Office Administration staff member will be responsible for maintaining all 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 the First Aid Room 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, the school will notify parents/carers by sending a note home to parents/carers.
- 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 the school 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

Please refer also to the school's *Care Arrangements for Ill Children Policy*, *Duty of Care Policy*, the *Bleeding Students/Blood Spills Policy*, *Emergency & Incident Reporting Policy*, *Health Care Needs Policy*, specific policies such as the *Asthma Management Policy* and the Child Safe Standards.

REVIEW PERIOD

This policy was developed in November 2018 and will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle or if guidelines change (latest DET updates early September 2018 and late June 2018 [OHS requirements]).

This policy was ratified by School Council 25/3/2019

References:

www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/health/pages/firstaid.aspx
www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/health/pages/firstaidneeds.aspx
www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/health/Pages/emergency.aspx

Site Characteristics	Minimum First Aid Requirements	
Less than 50 employees (and children)	1 first aid officer (minimum level 2 trained)	1 first aid kit
50 - 199 employees (and children)	2 first aid officers (minimum level 2 trained)	4 first aid kits
200 - 399 employees (and children)	4 first aid officers (minimum level 2 trained)	6 first aid kits
400 - 599 employees (and children)	6 first aid officers (minimum level 2 trained)	8 first aid kits
600 - 799 employees (and children)	9 first aid officers (minimum level 2 trained)	10 first aid kits and a first aid room with bed and stretcher
800 - 999 employees (and children)	12 first aid officers (minimum level 2 trained)	12 first aid kits (including specific "type of incident" treatment) and a first aid room with bed and stretcher
>1000 employees (and children)	16 first aid officers (minimum level 2 trained)	14 first aid kits (including specific "type of incident" treatment) and a first aid room with bed and stretcher
Where access is limited to medical and ambulance services (e.g. remote workplaces, school field excursions etc.)	2 additional first aid officers for every category (minimum level 2 trained)	2 additional first aid kits for every category

Footscray North Primary School First Aid Register

Name	Role	Location	Certificate Attained	Review Date