



ASHBURY PUBLIC SCHOOL

STUDENT HEALTH POLICY

Policy: **Student Health Policy**

Number: DoE Reference Number: PD/2004/0034/V01 Implementation Date: 22/03/2005

Source of Authority: Department of Education

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Signed..... Total Pages: 4

Distribution: School Council Members, Website, Ashbury Staff

1. Policy

The Student Health Policy of Ashbury Public School is bound by statements issued by the NSW Department of Education (DoE). All health care plans arranged by the school will comply with the guidelines set out in the NSW DoE Student Health in NSW Public Schools: A Summary and Consolidation of Policy. <http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/studentsupport/studenthealth/index.php>

2. Context

Ashbury Public School is committed to meeting its obligations under NSW Work Health and Safety Act 2011 (WHS Act), Common Law obligations, as well as anti-discrimination and privacy legislation. The school demonstrates a commitment to collaboration with parents and outside agencies to support the well-being of students. Student input is actively sought when appropriate. All students are entitled to participate in education regardless of their health support needs with minimal or no disruption to their learning. Support for students with health needs must be provided in a way that does not discriminate against them.

Ashbury Public School is also committed to teaching and modelling healthy and safe practices through Student Welfare Policy and Procedures; Personal Development, Health and Physical Education; and other learning area opportunities.

Staff receive professional training in the following areas:

- E-Emergency Care
- Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR)
- Anaphylaxis including EpiPen administration
- Asthma
- Child Protection (annually)
- Wellbeing of students
- other training where appropriate eg. diabetic awareness.

3. Responsibility

Principal

The Principal, as work place manager for Occupational Health and Safety (OH&S) injury management, is accountable for safety within the school. The Learning Support Team, OH&S Committee, School Executive and staff support the Principal in maintaining a safe learning environment.

Staff

It is the responsibility of school staff to:

- Take reasonable measures to protect students against risk of injury or harm
- Provide first aid or seek appropriate medical attention to injured students
- Support students to implement their health care plans and meet their health needs
- Liaise and communicate regularly with parents and relevant professionals regarding student health needs.

Parents/guardians/caregivers are expected to:

- Cooperate with the school and inform the school of the health care needs of their child
- Inform the school of any changes as soon as possible
- Provide doctor prescribed medication or other consumables (as stated in student health care plans) with a current use-by date in a timely manner
- Speak to school staff regarding concerns and issues.

Students

Students are expected to:

- Cooperate with staff members in managing their health needs
- Actively take age-related responsibility for their own health
- Follow actions as stated in Individual Health Care Plans.

4. Procedures

Advice on specific issues related to student health is guided by NSW Department of Education <http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/studentsupport/studenthealth/index.php> and NSW Department Health <http://www.health.nsw.gov.au>

Ashbury Public School uses a card system to manage and respond to student sickness, injuries and emergencies. If a student is unwell teaching staff will complete a sick notification slip and send it with the unwell student and a student escort to the office. Students identified with a medical condition have their own yellow cards (which are displayed in their class, playground bags and other learning areas such as the library). Yellow cards include the students name, photo and request for support. The student or student delegate takes the slip to the office to indicate the need for assistance. In an emergency staff can send a red card to the office to indicate the need for emergency assistance.

4.1 Care of students who become unwell at school

- Unwell students are escorted to the office with a sick note. If students are too unwell to go upstairs the office will be contacted and a staff member will go to the student.
- First Aid is applied by School Administrative and Support Staff (SASS) staff or another available staff member.
- If a student has an individual health care plan, staff must follow it.
- Parents are called if required. In the case of head injuries, parents must always be contacted.
- If required, an ambulance is called.

NSW WH&S Act 2011 (WHS Act) requires the reporting of incidents within given time-frames. Staff are required to complete an incident report within a reasonable timeframe.

4.2 First Aid

Schools are responsible for providing first aid at a local level and are required to implement department policy and procedures regarding first aid in schools.

- Every staff member is bi-annually retrained in e-emergency care
- Every staff member is annually trained in CPR
- All staff assist in administering first aid.
- A register of administered first aid is kept in the office and is to be completed by all staff administering first aid.
- Teachers on excursions and at sport carry a portable first aid kit (red back pack) and asthma kit as well as an EpiPen.
- Teachers on playground duty or staff supervising students administer minor first aid.
- First aid equipment and bags, asthma kits, epipens and student medication are regularly checked and maintained by the SASS staff.

4.3 Administration of Prescribed Medications

The administration of prescribed medications and health care procedures can be carried out by staff members who are trained in and volunteer to undertake these duties. Staff must adhere to the administration of medication plans for each individual student.

Schools must assist with the administration of prescribed medication or health care procedures during school hours where this support cannot reasonably be undertaken by parents or others outside of school hours.

4.4 Individual Health Care Plans

An individual health care plan must be developed for any student:

- diagnosed with severe asthma, type 1 diabetes, epilepsy or anaphylaxis risk and/or
- diagnosed as being at risk due to other health related issues and/or
- who requires the administration of health care procedures.

Principals have discretion about developing a written individual health care plan in other cases. Individual Health Care Plans need to be reviewed at least annually. Health care plans will be presented to all relevant staff.

4.5 Other ways in Supporting Student Health

At Ashbury Public School staff encourage student safety through specific education, role-modelling, and the implementation of health related practices.

Sun safety

- The Ashbury Public School uniform is designed to offer maximum protection from the sun.
- Our uniform policy states students must wear appropriate sun-safe hats when they are outside during recess, lunch time and any outdoor learning and sporting activities. Students who do not have hats are directed to a designated covered area. The school encourages the wearing of wide brim hats and legionnaire's style hats, as these offer the best protection for the skin and the eyes.
- The wearing of sunglasses is only encouraged for any student with light sensitivity or associated medical conditions.
- Students are encouraged to bring their own sunscreen for use at school. However, the school has available SPF 30+ sunscreen to be used by students. Staff remind students to apply sunscreen throughout the day.
- During high UVR times, students are directed to seek shade or are accommodated in indoor areas.

Infection Control

- Students are directed to engage in positive hygiene practices at school such as washing hands before and after eating and toileting. Visual displays are at every available washing basin to remind students of appropriate hand washing techniques.
- Students who are unwell are encouraged to stay home and return to school once they are well again. The school respectfully requests that consideration is given to health of other students, staff and the wider school community when parents and caregivers are considering sending an unwell child to school.
- The school abides by DoE policies and guidelines in regards to the notification, response and control of infections and infestations as either notified or observed.

Healthy Eating

- We educate students about healthy eating and encourage them to bring healthy food to school.
- Students are to bring to school a piece of fruit or vegetable to eat during daily 'crunch and sip' time. The drinking of water throughout the day is highly encouraged.
- Our canteen has available a range of healthy food.

1. References

NSW Department of Education and Training. Student Health in NSW Public Schools: A summary and consolidation of policy

www.schools.nsw.edu.au/studentsupport/studenthealth/index.php

NSW Department Health <http://www.health.nsw.gov.au>