

Croydon Community School & OPTIONS

Health Care Needs Policy



PURPOSE

To ensure that Croydon Community School & OPTIONS provides appropriate support to students with health care needs.

To explain to parent/carers, staff and students the processes and procedures in place to support students with health care needs at school.

SCOPE

This policy applies to:

- all staff, including casual relief staff and volunteers
- all students who have been diagnosed with a health care need that may require support, monitoring or medication at school.

Student Health Support plans help our school to assist students with:

- routine health care support needs, such as supervision or provision of medication
- personal care support needs, such as assistance with personal hygiene, continence care, eating and drinking, transfers and positioning, and use of health-related equipment
- emergency care needs, such as predictable emergency first aid associated with asthma, seizure or diabetes management.

POLICY

Student Health Support Planning

In order to provide appropriate support to students at Croydon Community School & OPTIONS who may need medical care or assistance, a Student Health Support Plan will be prepared by the Principal or nominee in consultation with parents/carers, treating medical practitioners and the student if applicable.

Note: Template health planning forms are available from:

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/health/Pages/supportplanning.aspx>

Students with complex medical care needs, for example, tracheostomy care, seizure management or tube feeding, must have a Student Health Support Plan which provides for appropriate staff to undertake specific training to meet the student's particular needs.

At enrolment or when a health care need is identified, parents/carers should provide accurate information about the student's condition or health care needs, ideally documented by the student's treating medical/health care practitioner on a Medical Advice Form (or relevant equivalent)

The school may invite parents/carers to attend a Student Support Group meeting to discuss the contents of a student's Health Support Plan and assistance that the student may need at school or during school activities.

Where necessary, the school also may request consent from parents and carers to consult with a student's medical practitioners, to assist in preparing the plan and ensure that appropriate school staff understand the student's needs.

Student Health Support Plans will be reviewed:

- when updated information is received from the student's medical practitioner
- when the school, student or parents and carers have concerns with the support being provided to the student
- if there are changes to the support being provided to the student, or

- on an annual basis.

The school will plan for most students to attend school camps and special events and take part in physical activities at school.

The school will communicate openly with students and families about successes achieved, development and changes and health and educational concerns.

The school will provide training for school staff in first aid to meet specific student health needs not covered under basic first aid training, such as managing asthma or for excursions or camps and to meet complex medical care needs.

Management of Confidential Medical Information

Confidential medical information provided to the school to support a student will be:

- recorded on the student's file on CASES21
- shared only with relevant staff so that they are able to properly support students diagnosed with medical conditions and respond appropriately if necessary.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

Reference:

www.education.vic/gov.au/school/principals/spag/health/Pages/healthcareneeds.aspx

Please refer also to the school's:

- Anaphylaxis Management Policy
- Asthma Management Policy
- Care Arrangements for Ill Children Policy
- Diabetes Management Policy
- Drug and Alcohol Policy
- Duty of Care Policy
- Epilepsy and Seizure Policy
- Medical & First Aid Emergencies Policy
- Medication (Administration of)

REVIEW CYCLE

This policy, last updated 15th October, 2019 and will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle or if guidelines change.