



St Brigid's College is committed to providing a safe learning environment for all our students. The school recognises that it cannot achieve a completely allergen free environment. It is our policy:

- To provide, as far as practicable, a safe and supportive environment in which students at risk of anaphylaxis can participate equally in all aspects of the student's schooling;
- To raise awareness about allergies and anaphylaxis in the school community;
- To engage with parents/guardians of each student at risk of anaphylaxis when assessing risks and developing risk minimisation strategies for the student; and
- To ensure that staff have knowledge about allergies, anaphylaxis and the school's guidelines and procedures in responding to an anaphylactic reaction.

St Brigid's College is an allergy aware school and will:

- Identify students at risk of anaphylaxis
- Have zero tolerance of bullying of students with allergies and/or at risk of anaphylaxis
- Raise general awareness about severe allergy amongst the school community
- Develop strong communication with parents/guardians of students at risk of anaphylaxis

Identification of Students at Risk of Anaphylaxis

Prior to commencing at the school, parents/guardians must notify the school of all medical conditions including allergies. The College will follow the anaphylaxis management procedure, which includes implementing identification systems and following the student's ASCIA Action Plan.

Students who are identified as at risk of anaphylaxis must have an ASCIA Action Plan completed and signed by the student's medical practitioner. The ASCIA Action Plan must be reviewed every 12-18 months when the student's adrenaline autoinjector prescription is renewed.

In addition to providing the above information and ASCIA Action Plan, it is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to:

- Provide an in-date adrenaline autoinjector for their child's use at the school;
- Inform the school if their child's medical condition changes, and if relevant provide an updated ASCIA Action Plan;
- Alert staff of additional risks associated with non-routine events and assist in planning and preparation of the student prior to Outdoor Education Programs (OEPs), tours, parties, and special events;

- Educate their child on prevention strategies (e.g: to not share food) and what to do if an exposure occurs.

Examples of ASCIA Action Plans are available from the [ASCIA website](#).

Parents are responsible for ensuring there is an adrenaline autoinjector at the Wellness Centre for their child.

Internal Communications

The college nurse will be responsible for providing information to all staff, students and parents/guardians about allergies and anaphylaxis and the development of the school's management strategies. The college nurse will ensure that relevant medical information is updated as received and readily available for staff.

Medication Storage and Location

All adrenaline autoinjectors and medication must be stored with a copy of the student's ASCIA Action Plan and are checked regularly to ensure that it has not expired, become discoloured or sediment is visible.

Adrenaline autoinjectors and other medication must be stored in Wellness Centre which are easily accessible to staff . A copy of the student's ASCIA Action Plan is stored in the Wellness Centre and is also available on SEQTA for Staff. All staff will be informed about where the student's adrenaline autoinjectors are stored.

Risk Minimisation Strategies

St Brigid's College will employ a range of appropriate risk minimisation strategies to manage exposure to known allergens.

St Brigid's College will raise awareness in the school community regarding severe allergies and anaphylaxis. St Brigid's College will implement practical, age appropriate strategies to minimise exposure to known allergens.

It is possible to minimise the risk factors within the School environment with parent/carer's assistance in adopting strategies that may include:

- Avoid sending nuts to school
- Avoid sending foods containing nuts/nut oils to school (nuts listed as an ingredient/used as an ingredient; nut spreads such as Nutella or nut butters)
- Promoting thorough washing of hands and face if children have eaten these foods before coming to school

- Asking the class teacher regarding dietary requirements of the children in their class and providing individual prepared servings for birthday treats (or consider non-food alternatives)
- Provide drink containers and lunch boxes clearly labelled with the name of their child
- Teaching your child about the need to eat only from their own lunchbox and not to share food

Parents/guardians are also able to contact the Wellness Centre for more information on allergy awareness.

Staff Responsibility

All staff must comply with the College’s Anaphylaxis minimisation procedure. All staff must be allergy aware and actively promote St Brigid’s College as an allergy aware school.

All staff must know which students in their care are at risk of anaphylaxis. Staff are trained to know how to prevent exposure to known allergens, how to recognise an allergic reaction including anaphylaxis and know how to respond to anaphylaxis including administering the adrenaline autoinjector.

Review History

Version	Date Released	Next Review	Author	Approved
1.0	2021	2023	Nurse	SLT
2.0	2022	2024	Nurse	SLT