

HEALTH CARE NEEDS POLICY

*The Currajong School takes a zero-tolerance approach to child abuse and is fully committed to ensuring that its strategies, policies, procedures, and practices meet all **Child Safe Standards as specified in Ministerial Order No. 1359 (2022)***

PURPOSE

To ensure that The Currajong School provides appropriate support to students with health care needs.

RATIONALE

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

GUIDELINES

This policy applies to:

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

POLICY

This policy should be read with The Currajong School's *First Aid, Administration of Medication, Anaphylaxis, Epilepsy and Asthma* policies.

(a) Student Health Support Planning

In order to provide appropriate support to students at The Currajong School who may need medical care or assistance, a Student Health Support Plan will be prepared in consultation with the relevant staff, student, their parents/carers and treating medical practitioners.

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; and
- emergency care needs, such as predictable emergency first aid associated with asthma, epilepsy or diabetes management.

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 Currajong 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 Currajong School may also request consent from parents /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/carers have concerns with the support being provided to the student; and
- if there are changes to the support being provided to the student, or on an annual basis.

(b) Management of Confidential Medical Information

Confidential medical information provided to The Currajong School to support a student will be:

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

EVALUATION

This policy will be reviewed as per our three-year review cycle or more often if necessary due to changes in regulations or circumstances.

Approval date:	Approved by:	Next review:
June 2024	Principal	June 2027



The Currajong School acknowledges the traditional owners of this country throughout Australia and their continuing connection to land and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures and to the Elders past, present and emerging.