HEALTH CARE NEEDS POLICY

PURPOSE

To ensure that St Andrews Primary School provides appropriate support to students with health care needs.

OBJECTIVE

To explain to St Andrews Primary School parents, 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.

POLICY

This policy should be read with St Andrews Primary School's *First Aid, Administration of Medication, Anaphylaxis* and *Asthma* policies.

Student health support planning

In order to provide appropriate support to students at St Andrews Primary School who may need medical care or assistance, a Student Health Support Plan will be prepared by the principal and office staff in consultation with the 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
- emergency care needs, such as predictable emergency first aid associated with asthma, seizure or diabetes management.

[Note: Template health planning forms are available here: 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)

Note: Template health planning forms are available here:
http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/health/Pages/supportplanning.aspx]

St Andrews Primary School may invite parents and 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, St Andrews Primary School may also 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.

Management of confidential medical information

Confidential medical information provided to St Andrews Primary School to support a student will be:

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

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- School Policy and Advisory Guide:
    - Health Care Needs
    - Health Support Planning Forms
    - Complex Medical Needs
- Administration of Medication Policy

REVIEW CYCLE

- This policy was last updated on 11th June 2018 and is scheduled for review in June 2021.

THIS POLICY DOES NOT NEED SCHOOL COUNCIL APPROVAL	
Date Presented to School Council for Noting	14/06/2018