

FIRST AID POLICY



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact the school Policy Leader on 9112 9500 or via email info@footscray.vic.edu.au

PURPOSE

To ensure the school community understands our school's approach to first aid for students across all school campuses.

SCOPE

First aid for anaphylaxis and asthma are provided for in our schools:

- *Anaphylaxis Policy*
- *Asthma Policy*

This policy does not include information on first aid requirements for COVID-19. Our school follows the Department's operational guidance for first aid management relating to COVID-19.

POLICY

This policy applies across all school campuses.

From time to time Footscray High School staff might need to administer first aid to students at school or school activities.

Parents/carers should be aware that the goal of first aid is not to diagnose or treat a condition.

STAFFING

The Assistant Principal Team will ensure that Footscray High School has sufficient staff with the appropriate levels of first aid training to meet the first aid needs of the school community.

Our school's trained first aid officers are listed in our Emergency Management Plan (EMP). Our EMP includes the expiry dates of the training.

This list is reviewed on an annual basis as part of the annual review of our Emergency Management Plan.

FIRST AID KITS

All Campuses will maintain:

- A major first aid kit which will be stored in each First Aid room
- Portable first aid kits which may be used for excursions, camps, or yard duty. The portable first aid kit/s will be stored:
 - First Aid
 - Staff room

- The first aid officer at each campus will be responsible for maintaining all first aid kits, ensuring they are managed in accordance with the Department's policy and guidance on first aid kits – refer to [First aid kits](#).

CARE FOR ILL STUDENTS

Students who are unwell should not attend school.

If a student becomes unwell during the school day they may be directed to the First Aid and monitored by staff. Depending on the nature of their symptoms, staff may contact parents/carers or an emergency contact person to ask them to collect the student.

Our school follows the Department's policy and guidance in relation to our [first aid room/sick bay area](#) to ensure it is safe, hygienic and appropriately equipped.

FIRST AID MANAGEMENT

If there is a situation or incident which occurs at school or a school activity which requires first aid to be administered to a student:

- Staff who have been trained in first aid will administer first aid in accordance with their training. In an emergency situation, other staff may assist in the administration of first aid within their level of competence.
- In a medical emergency, staff may take emergency action and do not need to obtain parent/carer consent to do so. Staff may contact Triple Zero '000' for emergency medical services at any time.
- Staff may also contact NURSE-ON-CALL (on 1300 60 60 24) in an emergency. NURSE-ON-CALL provides immediate, expert health advice from a registered nurse and is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- If first aid is administered for a minor injury or condition, Footscray High School will notify parents/carers by Compass notification and/or by phone call to parent if determined required by First Aid Officer and/or Campus Principal Team.
- If first aid is administered for a serious injury or condition, or in an emergency situation, school staff will attempt to contact parents/carers or emergency contacts as soon as reasonably practicable.
- The First Aid Officer/s across all school campuses determine that an emergency response is not required but that medical advice is needed, school staff will ask parents/carers, or an emergency contact person, to collect the student and recommend that advice is sought from a medical practitioner.
- Whenever first aid treatment has been administered to a student Footscray High School will:
 - record the provision of care on eduSafe Plus. If the care is provided following a [recorded incident](#), the details are recorded through the eduSafe Plus *Incident* form. For all other presentations, the eduSafe Plus *Sick Bay* form is used.
 - if care was provided in response to a medical emergency or reportable incident, follow the Department's [Reporting and Managing School Incidents Policy](#), including reporting the incident to the Department's Incident Support and Operations Centre on 1800 126 126 where required to under that policy.

In accordance with guidance from the Department of Education and Training, analgesics, including paracetamol and aspirin, will not be stored at school or provided as a standard first aid treatments. This is because they can mask signs of serious illness or injury. For further information refer to the Department's Policy and Advisory Library: [Medication](#)

COMMUNICATION

This policy will be communicated to our school community in the following ways:

- Available publicly on our school's website
- Included on our Staff Information Site on Compass
- Included in staff induction and child safety training processes
- Discussed at staff briefings/meetings as required
- Discussed at parent information nights/sessions
- Included in transition and enrolment packs
- Made available in hard copy from school administration upon request

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following Department policies and guidelines:

- [First aid for Students and Staff](#)
- [Health Care Needs](#)
- [Infectious Diseases](#)
- [Blood Spills and Open Wounds](#)
- [Medication](#)
- [Syringe Disposals and Injuries](#)

The following school policies are also relevant to this First Aid Policy:

- Administration of Medication Policy
- Anaphylaxis Policy
- Asthma Policy
- Duty of Care Policy
- Health Care Needs Policy
- Medication Administration Log
- Medication Authority Form

REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	2019
Endorsed by	Executive Principal
Endorsed on	October 2023
Mandatory minimum review cycle	3-4 Years
Next review date	October 2026/2027