

Health Care Needs Policy

Date Reviewed	10 th March 2023,
Date Implemented	20 th February 2019
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Approved By	College Council / Education Sub Committee
Approval Authority (Signature & Date)	Debbie Oliver 23/05/2023
Responsible for Review	Assistant Principal
Review Date	December 2026
References	DET

PURPOSE

To ensure that Seymour College provides appropriate support to students with health care needs.

OBJECTIVE

To explain to Seymour College 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 Seymour College's Anaphylaxis, Asthma and Student Injuries, First Aid and Medication Policies.

Student health support planning

In order to provide appropriate support to students at Seymour College who may need medical care or assistance, a Student Health Support Plan will be prepared by our School Nurse, 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.

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).

Seymour College 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, Seymour College 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.

Management of confidential medical information

Confidential medical information provided to Seymour College 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.

COMMUNICATION

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

- Available publicly on our school's website
- Included in staff induction processes and annual staff training
- Discussed at annual staff briefings or meetings
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

EXPECTATIONS

- This policy will be reviewed as part of the College's review cycle.

This policy will be made available on the College's website.

This policy was ratified by College Council on

17/05/2023

Child Safe Standards

"Victorian government schools are child safe environments. Seymour College actively promotes the safety and wellbeing of all students, and all school staff are committed to protecting students from abuse or harm in the school environment in accordance with their legal obligations including the Child Safe Standards."