

Health Care Needs Policy

PURPOSE

To ensure that Portland Secondary College (Must Street & Victoria Parade campuses) provides appropriate support to students with health care needs.

OBJECTIVE

To explain to Portland Secondary College (Must Street & Victoria Parade campuses) 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 Portland Secondary College (Must Street & Victoria Parade campuses)'s *First Aid, Administration of Medication, Anaphylaxis and Asthma* policies.

Student health support planning

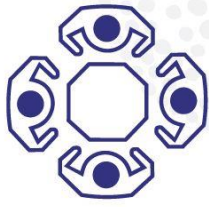
In order to provide appropriate support to students at Portland Secondary College (Must Street & Victoria Parade campuses) who may need medical care or assistance, a Student Health Support Plan will be prepared by the General Office Manager in consultation with the student, their parents, carers and 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.



Portland Secondary College

Creating the Opportunities...

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>]

Portland Secondary College (Must Street & Victoria Parade campuses) 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, Portland Secondary College (Must Street & Victoria Parade campuses) 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.

Where a student is absent for a prolonged period due to their health condition, staff shall endeavour to provide the student with suitable activities as to lessen the educational impact of that absence.

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.

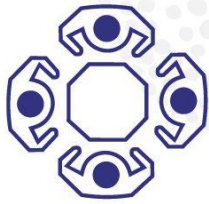
Management of confidential medical information

Confidential medical information provided to Portland Secondary College (Must Street & Victoria Parade campuses) 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

- Portland Secondary College Council
- Staff Induction process
- Staff Knowledge Base
- School Website
- Student Support Group Meetings



Portland Secondary College

Creating the Opportunities...

RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

- Anaphylaxis Management Policy.docx
- Asthma Management Policy.docx
- Administration of Medication Policy
- Inclusion and Diversity Policy.docx
- School Policy and Advisory Guide:
 - Health Care Needs
 - Health Support Planning Forms
 - Complex Medical Needs

REVIEW CYCLE

DATE	VERSION	CONSULTATION	APPROVED BY	NEXT REVIEW
June 2022	4	Portland Secondary College School Council	Principal Jo Kindred	May 2025