



Aurora School

HEALTH CARE NEEDS POLICY

DET POLICY TEMPLATE (Last updated by DET April 2021)

PURPOSE

To ensure that Aurora School provides appropriate support to children with health care needs.

OBJECTIVE

To explain to Aurora School parents, carers, staff and children the processes and procedures in place to support children with health care needs at school.

SCOPE

This policy applies to:

- all staff, including casual relief staff and volunteers
- all children 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 Aurora School's *First Aid, Medication, Anaphylaxis* and *Asthma* policies

Child health support planning

In order to provide appropriate support to children at Aurora School who may need medical care or assistance, a Child Health Support Plan will be prepared in consultation with the child, their parents, carers and treating medical practitioners.

Child Health Support plans help our school to assist children 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.

Children with complex medical care needs, for example, tracheostomy care, seizure management or tube feeding, must have a Child Health Support Plan which provides for appropriate staff to undertake specific training to meet the child's particular needs.

At enrolment or when a health care need is identified, parents/carers should provide accurate information about the child's condition or health care needs, ideally documented by the child'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>

Aurora School may invite parents and carers to attend a Child Support Group meeting to discuss the contents of a child's Health Support Plan and assistance that the child may need at school or during school activities.



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Where necessary, Aurora School may also request consent from parents and carers to consult with a child's medical practitioners, to assist in preparing the plan and ensure that appropriate staff understand the child's needs. Consultation with the child's medical practitioner will not occur without parent/carer consent unless required or authorised by law.

Child Health Support Plans will be reviewed:

- when updated information is received from the child's medical practitioner
- when the school, child or parents and carers have concerns with the support being provided to the child
- if there are changes to the support being provided to the child, or
- on an annual basis.

Management of confidential medical information

Confidential medical information provided to Aurora School to support a child will be:

- recorded on the child's file
- shared with all relevant staff so that they are able to properly support children 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
- Made available in hard copy from school administration upon request

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- School Policy and Advisory Guide:
 - [Health Care Needs](#)
 - [Health Support Planning Forms](#)
 - [Complex Medical Care Supports](#)
 - [Child and Family Violence Information Sharing Schemes](#)
 - [Privacy and Information Sharing](#)

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	June 2021 (Based on DET Policy Template dated April 2021)
Approved by	Principal & the School Management Team
Next scheduled review date	Three Years or earlier if significant changes to DET Template Policy