



# Student Health Policy

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## Policy

The Beehive Montessori School is committed to the promotion of a healthy lifestyle including healthy eating habits, drinking water, sun protection and physical education.

The School is committed to providing general health care for all students, protecting all students from communicable diseases and providing care for students with specific conditions such as asthma and allergies.

All children enrolled as students at the School must be immunised in accordance with Health Department of WA requirements, ([the National Immunisation Program Schedule](#)) and a copy of their Immunisation History Statement provided to the school.

The School aims to be a 'Sun Smart' school (registered with the Cancer Council of WA) and minimise UV exposure for students and staff.

## Background

The School has an obligation to consider both the long term and day-to-day management of students' health.

The School has an obligation to support and educate its students to learn to take positive responsibility for their personal health as well as the health of the community.

The School has an obligation to provide a safe learning environment to students with ongoing health issues such as asthma and allergies.

The School acknowledges that teachers are often in a position to observe the early onset of a student's illness.

Australia has the highest rate of skin cancer in the world and childhood sun exposure is an important contributing factor to the development of skin cancer.<sup>1</sup> The School's students and staff are at school during times when UV radiation levels are highest, and the School can minimise the UV exposure of its students.

The School is committed to maintaining a zero tolerance to substance abuse within the School grounds and at School events.

The School educates students and staff about snakes and follows the Snake Sighting Procedure.

The School requires all classroom teachers to maintain current First Aid training.

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<sup>1</sup> *Cancer Council of Western Australia*

## Implementation

1. The School shall –
  - 1.1. be guided by and implement Health Department of Western Australia recommendations for procedures for managing infectious diseases, allergies, asthma, head lice, etc. at [www.health.gov.au](http://www.health.gov.au) and WA [http://ww2.health.wa.gov.au/Articles/A\\_E/Communicable-disease-guidelines](http://ww2.health.wa.gov.au/Articles/A_E/Communicable-disease-guidelines);
  - 1.2. exclude from the School any student who has not had the scheduled vaccines in accordance with [the National Immunisation Program Schedule](#);
  - 1.3. exclude from the School any student who is unwell and has been assessed by his or her teacher(s) as a risk of infecting others and shall require the parent or guardian of that student to collect the student from School and keep the student at home until well and no longer infectious or at risk of being infectious;
  - 1.4. provide staff with regular training about health issues, including disease control, healthy lifestyle behaviours, hygiene, transmission of blood borne disease, allergies, asthma, snake bite, administration of medication (such as Epi-Pens or asthma inhalers), First Aid, resuscitation, and sun protection;
  - 1.5. educate students as appropriate to their age group on health issues, including disease control, healthy lifestyle behaviours, healthy eating and drinking water, hygiene, transmission of blood borne disease, allergies, asthma, snake bite, administration of medication (such as Epi-Pens or asthma inhalers), and sun protection;
  - 1.6. have a 'zero tolerance' of the use, possession and/or distribution of illicit drugs and the unsanctioned use and distribution of drugs such as alcohol, tobacco and prescription drugs in the School environment including School buildings or grounds, or during School activities and shall investigate, document and if appropriate report suspected substance abuse to the police;
  - 1.7. ensure that all teaching staff shall have current First Aid Certificates;
  - 1.8. ensure that each classroom has a First Aid Kit;
  - 1.9. appoint or continue to employ a Safety Officer and ensure that emergency contact information is readily available around the school;
  - 1.10. register or maintain registration as an Asthma Friendly School in the [Asthma Friendly Schools Program](#) and ensure associated staff training and first aid supplies;
  - 1.11. minimise exposure of students to known triggers for asthma attacks;
  - 1.12. only when and to the extent necessary for the safety or welfare of a student, provide information about a student's health (e.g. information about students with allergies) to staff, and shall otherwise keep information about students' health confidential;
  - 1.13. in the event of a significant concern about a student's health, immediately contact the parent or guardian of the student, and in the event that the parent or guardian of the student cannot be contacted, immediately contact the student's notified medical practitioner;
  - 1.14. document and retain a record of any medical treatment of a student at School;
  - 1.15. be responsible for administering medicines to students pursuant to medical direction;
  - 1.16. facilitate School Community Nurse and School Community Dentist attendances and assessments of students;
  - 1.17. require all students to wear the School hat year round at playtime except for June and July when the UV index is below 3, and enforce a 'No sun-safe hat .... Stay in the shade' policy;
  - 1.18. require adults on playground duty to wear hats year except for June and July;
  - 1.19. require adults and students to wear hats when outside at other times of the day if the UV index is above 3;
  - 1.20. make sunscreen lotion available in every classroom;

- 1.21. require teachers to supervise the application of sunscreen lotion to younger students;
  - 1.22. otherwise encourage all students and staff to apply sunscreen before coming to school and before going outdoors for lunch, sport and any other outdoor activities; and
  - 1.23. provide shaded areas for outdoor play.
2. It shall be a condition of enrolment of students at the School that all parents or guardians –
- 2.1. prior to enrolment, acknowledge and accept the requirement that their child must be immunised in accordance with the Health Department of Western Australia recommendations;
  - 2.2. prior to enrolment provide detailed health information about their child to the School;
  - 2.3. prior to enrolment, acknowledge and accept that they shall not send a child who is unwell to School and at risk of infecting others, and that in the event that their child becomes unwell at School, will collect their child from School and keep the child at home until their child is well and no longer infectious or at risk of being infectious;
  - 2.4. update the health information about their child from time to time and as required by the School; and
  - 2.5. parents of students with serious allergies or anaphylaxis provide an action plan signed by the student's doctor, and any medication, prior to the child starting. Parents of students with asthma provide to the School an asthma care plan which is signed by the student's doctor, and medication.

#### Related Documents and Resources

[The National Immunisation Program Schedule](#)

Medication Request form

Accident/Incident Report Form

Admissions Policy

Sun Protection Policy

Record of staff First Aid Training

[Asthma Friendly Schools Program](#)

Department of Health WA [http://ww2.health.wa.gov.au/Articles/A\\_E/Communicable-disease-guidelines](http://ww2.health.wa.gov.au/Articles/A_E/Communicable-disease-guidelines)

[Cancer Council WA Sun Smart Primary School Resources](#)

Snake Sighting Procedure

[Australian Society of Clinical Immunology and Allergy \(ASCI\)](#)

*Approved 24/10/22 by the Board Policy Committee. Next review due 24/10/24*