

Learner Health Care and Safety Policy

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1. Purpose

This Policy applies to all Department of Education (DoE) staff in all learning settings to ensure they provide medical and health care appropriate to their duty of care, and a safe physical learning environment for all students.

2. Policy Statement

DoE is committed to ensuring that all schools:

- provide medical and health care appropriate to their duty of care towards students, including students with intensive health care requirements
- are physically safe places
- adhere to legislation relating to child safety and information technology
- adhere to relevant sections of the [Education Act 2016](#)
- adhere to relevant sections of the Department of Education's [Legal Issues Handbook TASED-4-2645 - Version 3.0](#)
- make relevant connections between student health care and the Australian Curriculum

To ensure a safe learning environment for all children and students, including those with intensive health care requirements, all schools must:

- Implement procedures and practices related to student health that comply with legal obligations and government and departmental guidelines (eg Infection Prevention and Control)
- Where required, collaborate with parents and medical personnel to make appropriate provision for medical and health care on an individual basis, including when appropriate the development and implementation of Medical Action Plans
- Follow departmental guidelines in relation to acute incidents or community health issues
- Provide first aid (including emergency care) when required and temporary care for children and students who become unwell at school
- Adhere to departmental guidelines in relation to the administration of and safe storage of medications.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES	
The Secretary must	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ensure that the relevant Acts are adhered to.
Deputy Secretaries must	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ensure that the relevant Acts are adhered to• Ensure the implementation of this policy and associated documentation• Ensure that schools and colleges are provided with appropriate guidance through the provision of policy, procedures and guidelines• When required, issue medical and health care directives and guidelines to schools that are consistent with this policy• Initiate processes for the regular and timely evaluation and review of medical and health care policies and associated documents.

Site Managers must	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that principals, teaching and support staff are familiar with the policy and procedures in this area.
School Principals must	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement policy, guidelines and procedures to ensure that reasonable measures and systems are in place to protect the health and safety of all students when they are at school or involved in school activities Develop and document local procedures to support student medical and health care needs which reflect departmental policy and incorporate local needs Document and report critical incidents.
All school staff must	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take reasonable measures to protect students against risk of injury or harm which should reasonably have been foreseen Take reasonable care for the health and safety of all students, including assisting in an

3. Related policies

- [Drug Education and Management Policy](#)
- [Respectful Student Behaviour Policy](#)

4. Related procedures

- [Student Health and Administration of Medication Procedures](#)
- [Planning Off Campus Activities Procedure](#)
- [School Science Practical Work Procedure](#)
- [Specific Health Issues Procedures, Information and Contacts](#) Staff access only
- [Respectful Student Behaviour Process](#)

5. Supporting information/tools

- [Critical Incident Response Guidelines](#) Staff access only
- [Infection Prevention and Control Guidelines](#) Staff access only
- [Legal Issues Handbook](#) Staff access only
- [Playground Equipment Safety Check](#) Staff access only

6. Definitions

School/s

In this document this term includes early years settings, schools and colleges.

Duty of care

In the school context, duty of care is a common law concept that refers to the responsibility of providing students with an adequate level of protection against harm according to standards set by the courts and the community at large.

Parent/s

- (a) a legal guardian of a child
- (b) another person who has the care, control or custody of a child
- (c) another person who generally acts in the place of a parent of a child and has done so for a significant length of time

7. Legislation

Education Act 2016

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