



HEALTH CARE NEEDS POLICY

PURPOSE

To ensure that Mount Waverley Secondary College provides appropriate support to students with health care needs.

OBJECTIVE

To explain to Mount Waverley Secondary 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 Mount Waverley Secondary College *First Aid, Administration of Medication, Anaphylaxis* and *Asthma* policies.

Student health support planning

If a student has been diagnosed with a medical condition, a chronic illness, or sustained a serious injury and/or has been absent from school for a considerable amount of time, it is expected that the student will be required to attend a Return To School (RTS) meeting prior to recommencing at school.

In order to provide appropriate support to students at Mount Waverley Secondary College who may need medical care or assistance, a Student Health Support Plan will be prepared by the Manager of Student Wellbeing in consultation with the college nursing team, together 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 allergies, asthma, seizure or diabetes management
- re-integrating back into classes and study. This may include a modified timetable/program to assist students to successfully re-integrate back into class and their studies, if deemed necessary. This may also include an Individual Education Plan to help set clear and achievable goals for students returning to school and whilst they are receiving support through the Student Health Support Plan.



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).

Mount Waverley Secondary College may invite parents and carers to attend a Student Support Group (SSG) 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, Mount Waverley Secondary College may also request consent from parent/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, or
- on an annual basis.

Management of confidential medical information

Confidential medical information provided to Mount Waverley Secondary 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.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- School Policy and Advisory Guide:
 - [Health Care Needs](#)
 - [Health Support Planning Forms](#)
 - [Complex Medical Needs](#)

REVIEW CYCLE

- This policy was last updated on July 2021 and is scheduled for review in 2024.