



# SORRENTO PRIMARY SCHOOL

## *Health Care Policy*

### **RATIONALE**

Sorrento Primary School is committed to: The care, safety and protection of all students attending government schools. The primary purpose of health care provision is to implement health practices that maintain and promote the good health of all students and staff by providing teaching and learning experiences that contribute to the achievement of long-term health outcomes, including the Health and Physical Education learning outcomes

### **GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES**

See DoE – Policy - Student Health Care Policy

#### **Administration is responsible for:**

Promotion of good health outcomes:

- Developing and implementing school procedures and practices that promote good health outcomes for all students
- Ensuring that staff are aware of their responsibilities, rights and all available management options when providing health care to students
- Ensuring appropriate personal and staff training is available for the provision of health care and emergency procedures
- Taking action in accordance with advice provided by the department of health in managing communicable diseases
- Personally providing health care within their level of experience for any student in an emergency situation if professional assistance cannot be promptly accessed;
- Seeking immunisation and health information about students from parents at the point of enrolment
- Safe and confidential storage of students' health care records and health care authorisations.

#### **Managing identified health care needs of students:**

- Seeking information and advice from parents and health professionals to ensure that the health care needs of students are identified
- Developing a health care authorisation for students when necessary, monitoring its implementation and maintaining up to date information
- Ensuring that relevant school staff are fully aware of identified health care needs of students and that the health care authorisation is implemented at school and/or during off-site activities
- Assessing the training, equipment and resources required to manage identified health care needs
- Determining whether or not the intensive health care needs of a student can be met by the school
- Maintaining engagement and participation of chronically ill students in an appropriate educational program (in collaboration with HSS)

**Staff are responsible for:**

Promotion of good health outcomes:

- Promoting health practices that maintain good health for all students in the school environment
- Monitoring the health needs of all students and meeting duty of care obligations by recognising and responding to changing health needs or accidents involving students
- Implementing agreed school procedures and practices to promote good health outcomes and maintain safety for all students
- Addressing health learning outcomes, community health promotion priorities or activities within the learning and teaching program
- Providing essential health care for a student in an emergency situation if professional assistance cannot be promptly accessed.

**Managing identified health care needs of students:**

- Determining whether to agree or not to agree to provide health care and/or medical procedures (including administering or medication) for identified students
- Informing the principal when they do not consider themselves to be confident to provide health care support to students
- Implementing a health care authorisation for students when necessary, monitoring its implementation and maintaining up to date information
- Keeping required records about the provision of health care to students
- Participating in agreed training for the provision of health care or medical procedures, including first aid and emergency procedures
- Maintaining engagement and participation of chronically ill students in an appropriate educational program under the direction of the principal and in collaboration with outside agencies.

**Parents share responsibility with the school to:**

Ensure the provision of appropriate health care for their child. This includes:

- Providing accurate and relevant information about their child's health history, any medical condition or health care needs at the time of enrolment and throughout their child's attendance at the school
- Advising staff if their child is bringing any medication to school and completing a health care authorisation
- Providing advice about their child's health from a health professional when requested
- Providing written permission for an identified staff member to be able to directly contact a health professional
- Assisting the school to develop a health care authorisation in response to identified health care needs or medical conditions.

**State-wide specialist services are responsible for:**

- Providing advice and support to school staff to support students with identified health care needs;
- Contributing to educational planning for identified students; and facilitating staff training where this is appropriate

Reviewed: March 2017