

# Managing student medical conditions

**i** The information on this page relates to a high-priority health and safety risk. The risk controls detailed below must be implemented and monitored in line with the [safety management procedure](#).

Schools and preschools must take reasonable steps to ensure they receive adequate information regarding a child's or young person's health condition. Schools and preschools should promote attendance and positive engagement in the curriculum regardless of the health needs of a child or young person. Schools and preschools may not exclude a child or young person from school activities because they require health support or staff are uncomfortable or unqualified to provide assistance.

## Care plans

Schools and preschools must receive details of individual care recommendations for any child or young person with an identified health condition that may need intervention from education and care staff. Treating health professionals provide this information through [care plans, management plans, action plans, first aid plans and medication agreements](#). These plans will inform employees how they can assist children and young people with various health conditions such as:

- seizures
- anaphylaxis
- asthma
- diabetes
- continence.

The plans provide details of emergency and routine health and personal care support for the child or young person.

Not every child or young person with a health condition requires a care plan. Where a child or student has a health condition that does not require any intervention at school or preschool they do not require a care plan.

Where a review date has expired the care plan remains valid until an updated form is received. A review date is NOT an expiry or end date.

## Health support agreement

Where a parent advises their child or young person requires health support the site leader, together with the family and the child or young person, must develop a [health support agreement](#) that outlines how the site will meet the requirements of the health care plan. The health support agreement will identify site specific management and emergency response strategies and the level of care needed.

A health support agreement may be developed either with or without a formal medical diagnosis and care plan completed by a health professional.

Site leaders are to notify teachers if one of their students has a health support agreement.

An employee is not to provide invasive and/or complex health support. Refer to [complex and invasive health support](#) for further information.

A health support agreement should be reviewed in consultation with families in each of the following circumstances:

- annually (at a minimum)
- when a care plan has been reviewed and updated
- as soon as practicable after a medical emergency incident at the education or care service
- prior to the child or young person participating in an offsite activity (ie camps or excursions) or at onsite special events (ie class parties, cultural days, fetes, incursions).

See the [health support planning page](#) for further information.

## Medication

Site leaders must safely and effectively manage a child or young person's medication in accordance with the [medication management in education and care procedure](#).

Medication cannot be administered in an education or care service without a [medication agreement](#) that has been completed by a treating health professional or pharmacist (for over the counter medication) and authorised by the parent or legal guardian, except for an asthma puffer or EpiPen® when this is used as an emergency response medicine.

See the [medication management](#) page for further information.

## Specific health conditions

The department has information and resources available on the [managing health in education and care page](#) for specific health conditions.

Sites are required to comply with management strategies for specific health conditions.

## Contact

### Regulation and Compliance

Phone: 8226 1646

Email: [Education.NQFenquiries@sa.gov.au](mailto:Education.NQFenquiries@sa.gov.au)

# Related information

- [Health support planning](#)
- [Managing health in education and care](#)
- [Prescribed information required to meet NQF regulations](#)
- [Complex needs safety checklist](#)