



# Warracknabeal Secondary College

## Student Health Care Needs Policy

**Child Safety statement:** Warracknabeal Secondary College is committed to child safety (Ministerial Order No. 870) and takes all reasonable steps to ensure that the safety of our students is paramount.

### **Rationale:**

At any one time, a student can have a health condition or care need that could impact on their attendance and participation within school. This can require short or long-term first aid planning, supervision for safety, routine health and personal care support and occasionally complex medical care needs.

Warracknabeal Secondary College has a responsibility to provide equitable access to education and respond to diverse student needs, including health care needs.

This policy has been developed to assist supporting student health within a school environment in a pro-active manner.

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.

This policy should be read with Warracknabeal Secondary College's *First Aid, Administration of Medication, and Anaphylaxis Policies*.

### **Aims:**

- To ensure that Warracknabeal Secondary College provides appropriate support to students with health care needs.
- To explain to Warracknabeal Secondary College parents, carers, staff and students the processes and procedures in place to support students with health care needs at school.

### **Student health support planning**

In order to provide appropriate support to students at Warracknabeal Secondary College who may need medical care or assistance, a Student Health Support Plan will be prepared by year level coordinator, student wellbeing coordinator, principal in consultation 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 asthma, seizure or diabetes management.

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).

Warracknabeal Secondary College may invite parents and carers to attend a Student Support Group 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, Warracknabeal Secondary College may also request consent from parents and 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 Warracknabeal 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.

### **Evaluation:**

This policy will be reviewed annually or more often if necessary due to changes in regulations or circumstances.

### **Ratified by School Council**

Date: March 17<sup>th</sup> 2020

### **Signed**

Principal:



School Council President:

