



DIVISION OF RESPONSIBILITIES

Increased safety for students at risk for anaphylaxis in a school setting depends on the cooperation of the entire school community.

To minimize risk of exposure, and to ensure rapid response to emergency, parents/guardians, students and school personnel must understand and fulfill their responsibilities.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF PARENTS/GUARDIANS OF AN ANAPHYLACTIC CHILD

- Be informed of the Niagara Catholic District School Board's Anaphylaxis Administrative Procedures and School Anaphylaxis Management Plan.
- Complete and authorize Anaphylaxis Emergency Plan of Care form (*Appendix C*) that has been approved by the student's allergist/physician.
- Review both the Anaphylaxis Emergency Plan of Care form (*Appendix C*) and the procedures for reducing risk with school personnel annually.
- Provide transportation for their child until emergency procedures are in place for busing.
- Provide a MedicAlert[®] bracelet for their child as per parental consideration.
- Inform the school of their child's allergies.
- Provide the school with current medical instructions from their physician for administering auto-injector.
- Provide the school with up-to-date and sufficient number of epinephrine auto-injectors (e.g. EpiPen[®]) for the entire school year.
- Provide and maintain up-to-date emergency contact information to the school.
- Provide support to school and teachers, as requested.
- Provide in-service for staff, if requested.
- Assist in school communication plans.
- Be willing to provide safe foods for special occasions (if appropriate).
- Teach their child:
 - to recognize the signs and symptoms of an anaphylactic reaction;
 - to know where medication is kept and who can get it;
 - to carry their own epinephrine auto-injectors (e.g. EpiPen[®]) in a fanny-pack;
 - to not share snacks, lunches or drinks;
 - to understand the importance of hand-washing, and to wash hands before and after eating;
 - to report bullying/threats/harassment to an adult in authority;
 - to take as much responsibility as possible for their own safety.
- Welcome other parent/guardian calls with questions about safe foods.
- Participate in advisory/support groups.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

With Parent/Guardians and Students:

- Develop an individual Anaphylaxis Emergency Plan for each student who has an anaphylactic allergy, in consultation with student's parent(s)/guardian(s).
- Work closely with the parents/guardians of anaphylactic students.
- Develop a School Anaphylaxis Management Plan to implement the Board Policy and Procedures

for reducing risk of anaphylaxis in all areas of the school, reviewed on an annual basis with school staff at the beginning of each school year.

- Ensure completion of all necessary forms by parents/guardians: *Appendix C – Anaphylaxis Emergency Plan of Care* at registration and to update the information on an annual basis.
- Direct parents/guardians of anaphylactic students to relevant Board and school policies and procedures and provide the opportunity to review them together.
- Inform all students, staff and parents/guardians that students with life-threatening allergies are in attendance and ask for their support.
- Communicate with the Catholic School Council to increase awareness of anaphylaxis and the role of the school in helping to protect students with life-threatening allergies.
- Advise the parents/guardians of other students on the school bus, explaining anaphylaxis and the need for their cooperation.
- Post a board provided “Anaphylaxis Aware” sign at entrances of the school.

With School Staff:

- Maintain a file for each anaphylactic pupil of current treatment and other information, including a copy of any prescriptions and instructions from the student’s physician and a current emergency contact list.
- Inform all students, staff and parents/guardians that students with life-threatening allergies are in attendance and ask for their support.
- Share the plan of care with all school staff as well as occasional staff members. Plans of care should be posted in the Staff Room for all to reference while maintaining student privacy.
- Post allergy-alert forms in the staff room, classroom, office and other appropriate rooms.
- Post Anaphylaxis Emergency Plans at appropriate places in the school (*Appendix C*).
- Maintain up-to-date emergency contacts and telephone numbers in the school office.
- Ensure that staff and volunteers have received instructions with giving an epinephrine auto-injector (e.g. EpiPen®).
- Practice emergency procedures with all staff.
- In cooperation with the parents/guardians and classroom teacher, may implement a “buddy” system to enhance safety.
- Ensure that occasional teachers and support staff are informed of the presence of an anaphylactic student and procedures.
- Arrange for annual in-services with all staff.
- Store epinephrine auto-injectors (e.g. EpiPen®), labeled and in an easily accessible location known to all staff.
- Ensure that surfaces such as tables, toys, etc. are carefully cleaned of contaminating foods.

With Executive Director, Niagara Student Transportation Services:

- Complete and submit the annual memorandum from Transportation Services regarding Anaphylactic Students Using Transportation to the Executive Director, Niagara Student Transportation Services.
- Ensure that the medical field of the Maplewood Student Information system has been completed.
- Inform the Executive Director, Niagara Student Transportation Services of any problems reported regarding busing and the safety of anaphylactic students.
- Reinforce current procedures prohibiting eating on the school bus.
- Through the Niagara Student Transportation Services advise the bus driver of the presence of a student with life-threatening allergies on their bus as well as share the Plan of Care with the driver.
- Advise the parents/guardians of other students on the school bus, explaining anaphylaxis and the need for their cooperation.

Other:

- Establish safety procedures for field trips and extra-curricular activities as it applies to the student. Additional epinephrine auto-injectors (e.g. EpiPen®), should be brought on field trips. Communicate with parent/guardian prior to activity.
- Conduct spot checks along with staff to reinforce the student's responsibility to carry epinephrine auto-injectors (e.g. EpiPen®) and wear MedicAlert® notification.
- In the event, an elementary student who has a known food allergen in their lunch shares a classroom with a student with life-threatening allergies, the Principal must provide an alternate eating location for them to eat separately. Secondary School Principals must provide an alternate eating location for students with life-threatening allergies on request.
- Caterers or other businesses that supply food or food services to cafeterias within the jurisdiction of the Niagara Catholic District School Board must, as part of their contractual agreement, ensure personnel are trained to reduce the risk of cross-contamination through purchasing, handling, preparation and serving of food and clearly identify the contents of foods served.
- Principals, parents and food service staff should work closely together to ensure that food being served during lunch and snack programs is appropriate. If there is any uncertainty, food-allergic children should only eat food which parents have approved.
- Ensure a safe eating environment for children with food allergies which is agreeable to the allergic child and their parents/guardians.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CLASSROOM TEACHER

- Participate in the review of the Anaphylaxis Emergency Plan of Care (*Appendix C*) for students in their classroom with life-threatening allergies.
- Participate in regular training about anaphylaxis and epinephrine auto-injectors (e.g. EpiPen®).
- Display a photo-poster in the classroom, with parental approval and regard to the privacy needs of older students.
- Discuss anaphylaxis with the class in age-appropriate terms.
- Advise students not to share lunches, food implements or trade snacks.
- Choose alternatives to using food as a reward.
- Establish procedures to encourage the anaphylactic student to eat only what they bring from home.
- Reinforce hand-washing with soap and water before and after eating for all students.
- Advise students of disposing all food refuse properly.
- Facilitate communication with other parents/guardians.
- In cooperation with the parents/guardians and the Principal, may implement a "buddy" system to enhance safety.
- Follow Board policies and school procedures for reducing risks in classrooms and common areas.
- Conduct spot checks to reinforce the student's responsibility to carry epinephrine auto-injectors (e.g. EpiPen®) and wear MedicAlert® notification.
- Leave the Anaphylaxis Emergency Plan(s) in an organized, prominent and accessible format for occasional teachers, parent/guardian volunteers, or others who may have occasional contact.
- Plan appropriately for field trips. Communicate with parent/guardian prior to activity.
- Ensure that Anaphylaxis Emergency Plan of Care (*Appendix C*) is considered, and epinephrine auto-injectors (e.g. EpiPen®) are taken.

RESPONSIBILITY OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, NIAGARA STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

- Ensure that the bus company is familiar with the Board's Policy and Administrative Procedures on Anaphylaxis (Board Policy No. 302.1).

- Note: Niagara Student Transportation Services is responsible to provide their staff with First Aid training and Auto-Injector training.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF BUS OPERATORS AND BUS DRIVERS

- Ensure that all bus drivers are familiar with the Board's Policy and Administrative Procedures on Anaphylaxis (Board Policy No.302.1) related Niagara Student Transportation Services contractual requirements, and follow bus company policy procedures for anaphylactic students.
- Participate in training offered by the bus company.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF PUBLIC HEALTH/SCHOOL NURSE

- Consult with and provide information to parents/guardians, students, and school personnel.
- Participate and/or conduct in-services, including training, in the use of epinephrine auto-injectors (e.g. EpiPen®).
- Assist in developing Anaphylaxis Emergency Plan of Care form (*Appendix C*) when requested.
- Refer known cases of anaphylaxis to the school principal.
- Be available as a school resource.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF ANAPHYLACTIC STUDENTS

- Take as much age-appropriate responsibility as possible for avoiding allergens.
- Eat only foods brought from home or approved by parents/guardians for consumption.
- Take responsibility for checking labels and monitoring intake (as age appropriate).
- Wash hands frequently with soap and water and always before eating.
- Learn to recognize symptoms of an anaphylactic reaction (as age appropriate).
- Promptly inform an adult, as soon as suspected accidental exposure occurs or symptoms appear.
- Carry epinephrine auto-injectors (e.g. EpiPen®) at all times as soon as age appropriate.
- Wear MedicAlert® identification.
- Know how to use the epinephrine auto-injector (e.g. EpiPen®) (as age appropriate).

RESPONSIBILITY OF SCHOOL COMMUNITY

- Respond co-operatively to requests from the school to reduce allergens from packed lunches, snacks and special occasions etc.
- Participate in parent/guardian information sessions.
- Encourage students to respect an anaphylactic student and school policies.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF ALL STUDENTS (AS AGE APPROPRIATE)

- Learn to recognize symptoms of anaphylactic reaction.
- Do not share food, especially with anaphylactic students.
- Follow school rules about reducing allergens in the classroom.
- Refrain from bullying/teasing/harassing a student with a food allergy.
- Wash hands with soap and water before and after eating.
- Dispose all food refuse properly.
- Respect the rights and needs of others.

[APPENDIX C](#) Anaphylaxis Emergency Plan of Care form