PATTERSON RIVER
SECONDARY COLLEGE

FIRST AID POLICY
2026-2030

PERSISTENCE · EXCELLENCE · COMMUNITY · RESPECT

PURPOSE

To ensure the school community understands our school's approach to first aid for students.

SCOPE

First aid for anaphylaxis and asthma are provided for in our school's:

- *Anaphylaxis Policy*
- *Asthma Policy*

This policy does not include information on first aid requirements for COVID-19. Our school follows the Department's operational guidance for first aid management relating to COVID-19.

POLICY

From time to time Patterson River Secondary College staff might need to administer first aid to students at school or at school activities.

Parents/carers should be aware that the goal of first aid is not to diagnose or treat a condition.

Staffing

The Principal will ensure that Patterson River Secondary College has sufficient staff with the appropriate levels of first aid training to meet the first aid needs of the school community. Our school's trained first aid officers are listed in our Emergency Management Plan (EMP). Our EMP includes the expiry dates of the training.

This is reviewed annually.

First aid kits

Patterson River Secondary College will maintain:

- A major first aid kit which will be stored in Sick Bay.
- 8 portable first aid kits which may be used for excursions, camps or yard duty. The portable first aid kits will be stored in Sick Bay.

Anastasia Castle will be responsible for maintaining all first aid kits, ensuring they are managed in accordance with the Department's policy and guidance on first aid kits - refer to First aid kits.

Care for ill students

Students who are unwell should not attend school. If a student becomes unwell during the school day they may be directed to the sick bay and monitored by staff. Depending on the nature of their symptoms, staff may contact parents/carers or an emergency contact person to ask them to collect the student.

First aid room/sick bay area

Our school follows the Department's policy and guidance in relation to our first aid room/sick bay area to ensure it is safe, hygienic and appropriately equipped: First aid rooms and sick bays.

First aid management

If there is a situation or incident which occurs at school or at a school activity which requires first aid to be administered to a student:

- Staff who have been trained in first aid will administer first aid in accordance with their training. In an emergency situation, other staff may assist in the administration of first aid within their level of competence.
- In a medical emergency, staff may take emergency action and do not need to obtain parent/carer consent to do so. Staff may contact Triple Zero "000" for emergency medical services at any time.

- Staff may also contact NURSE-ON-CALL (on 1300 60 60 24) in an emergency. NURSE-ON-CALL provides immediate, expert health advice from a registered nurse and is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- If first aid is administered for a minor injury or condition, Patterson River Secondary College will notify parents/carers with a post on Compass.
- If first aid is administered for a serious injury or condition, or in an emergency situation, school staff will attempt to contact parents/carers or emergency contacts as soon as reasonably practical.
- If staff providing first aid determine that an emergency response is not required but that medical advice is needed, school staff will ask parents/carers, or an emergency contact person, to collect the student and recommend that advice is sought from a medical practitioner.
- Whenever first aid treatment has been administered to a student resulting from a student incident, injury or illness, Patterson River Secondary College will:
    - record the provision of first aid treatment on Compass
    - follow the department's Reporting and Managing School Incidents (including emergencies) Policy if care was provided in response to a medical emergency or reportable incident. This includes reporting the incident to the department's Incident Support and Operations Centre on 1800 126 126 where required to under that policy.

In accordance with Department policy, analgesics, including paracetamol and aspirin, will not be stored at school or provided as a standard first aid treatment. This is because they can mask signs of serious illness or injury. For further information refer to the Department's Policy and Advisory Library: Medication

COMMUNICATION

This policy will be communicated to our school community in the following ways:

- Available publicly on our school's website
- Included in staff induction processes and staff training
- Included in staff handbook/manual
- Discussed at staff briefings/meetings as required
- Reminders in our school newsletter
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following Department policies and guidelines:

- First Aid for Students and Staff
- Health Care Needs
- Infectious Diseases
- Blood Spills and Open Wounds
- Medication
- Syringe Disposals and Injuries
- COVID-19 - School Operations

The following school policies are also relevant to this First Aid Policy:

- Administration of Medication Policy
- Anaphylaxis Policy
- Asthma Policy
- Duty of Care Policy
- Health Care Needs Policy

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	October 2026
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	October 2030

79 – 98 Eel Race Road, Seaford VIC 3198
PO Box 2664, Seaford VIC 3198
P 03 8770 6700 E patterson.river.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au
www.prsc.vic.edu.au