ANAPHYLAXIS POLICY

RATIONALE
Our Lady of Mount Carmel School owes a duty of care to all students and as such foreseeable risks from anaphylaxis need to be minimized.

PRINCIPLES
1. Our Lady of Mount Carmel School is committed to providing for the education of the school community in the risks associated with anaphylaxis.

2. Detailed plans are set in place which provide the procedures necessary for responding to an incident where anaphylaxis may occur to a member of the school community. These procedures include an emergency action plan for each member of the school community known to suffer from a particular allergy.

3. All members of staff are informed of, and trained in, the procedures to follow if a member of the school community is to suffer from an allergic reaction.

PROCEDURES
1. Information about a student’s allergies shall be collected at enrolment and at other times during the course of a student’s time at the school e.g. parental consent forms for camps/excursions. Should such information indicate risk of serious allergic reactions, schools shall seek medical advice through the parents/guardians. Those students suffering from any form of anaphylaxis have their personal folder kept in the administration area.

2. Parental consent to be gained to disclose individual student health information in accordance with the Privacy Act (Cth) 1998 as amended.

3. School personnel suffering from any form of anaphylaxis to make their condition known to the Principal on commencement of employment. School principal to inform all other school personnel of the employee’s condition and required recognition and treatment.

4. All children who may suffer from serious allergic reactions and any other articulated chronic medical condition shall have a medical action plan provided to the school by a medical practitioner explaining triggers, expected symptoms and recommended action in the event of accidental exposure to a trigger.

5. Adrenalin in the form of an auto-injector device Epipen shall be kept in the school office for emergency use during school and excursions. Parents are responsible for providing the Epipen to the school at the commencement of every school year.

6. Epipens must be taken on all excursions that leave the school grounds.
7. A list of students suffering from anaphylaxis, along with its frequency, triggers and treatment involved, is to be given to all teachers at the commencement of the school year, or when a new staff member is employed. This same list is to be displayed in a private place in the staffroom. A small photograph is to be displayed of any student who has submitted to the school, a detailed action plan recommended by a practitioner. This action plan will also be on view for teachers to become familiar with.

8. All staff shall receive training by qualified personnel to administer an Epipen and shall receive training in anaphylactic awareness, recognition and management.

9. Immediate transfer of child to hospital by Principal or school secretary after adrenalin injection.

10. Action plans shall be reviewed annually and after any reaction.

11. Where a child suffers an extremely severe reaction (eg. smell of peanuts triggers anaphylactic shock), it remains the responsibility of the parents to inform the Principal if they wish other students and parents to be provided with this information. If and how this occurs remains at the discretion of the Principal, and firstly for the safety of the child.

**ACTION PLAN (GENERAL)**

In the case of an emergency, (in particular students or adults suffering from an allergic reaction to peanuts or bees or dairy products):

1. Please stay with the child – stay calm so that the child does not panic.
2. Call a student to walk to the office quickly.
3. A staff member needs to move out on duty.
4. A responsible member of staff to drive the child to the hospital.
5. A staff member to phone ahead (to hospital) stating the child’s name and emergency.
6. The same staff member to contact parents to advise them that the child has been taken to hospital.