

# Jennings Street School

## Diabetes Policy

### Rationale

Jennings Street School will ensure that all staff are aware of the possible symptoms of diabetes, have the knowledge, education and skills to deal with potential situations within a school environment.

Diabetes is considered a disability under the relevant federal and state anti-discrimination laws. Therefore, Jennings Street School accepts a legal obligation to make reasonable adjustments for students with diabetes to enable them to participate in their education on the same basis as their peers, regardless of whether or not they are funded under the Program for Students with Disabilities.

**Type 1 Diabetes** is an auto-immune condition which occurs when the immune system damages the insulin producing cells in the pancreas. Insulin is the hormone that controls blood glucose levels (BGLs). This condition is predominantly treated with insulin replacement via multiple injections each day or a continuous infusion via a pump. Without insulin treatment, Type 1 diabetes is life threatening.

**Type 2 Diabetes** occurs when either insulin is not working effectively (insulin resistance) or the pancreas does not produce sufficient insulin (or a combination of both). Type 2 diabetes accounts for around 85 percent of all cases of diabetes, but less than 5% of cases in the school-based population. Type 2 diabetes usually develops in adults over the age of 45 years, but it is increasingly occurring at a younger age. Type 2 diabetes is initially managed with a healthy diet and lifestyle and/or medication that could include tablets and/or insulin.

### Aims

To ensure that Jennings Street School supports students with diabetes, developing and implementing support and management plans for students living with diabetes mellitus ('diabetes').

### Implementation

To ensure that all students with Type 1 diabetes have;

- A current individual Diabetes Management Plan prepared by the student's treating medical team (provided by parents/carers)
- A current Diabetes Action Plan and
- A Student Health Support Plan, developed by the school in consultation with the Parents/carers and where appropriate the student's treating medical team
- a Medication Authority Form, detailing the medications required during regular school hours, the dose, administration and storage
- Equal opportunity to access school-based learning and opportunities external to the school environment i.e. Excursions and camps. This will involve tailored Support Plans and a risk

Diabetes Policy V3. 03.2021	4 Jennings Street LAVERTON VIC 3028 (03) 9360 9322	jennings.street.sch@education.vic.gov.au www.jenningsstreetschool.vic.edu.au	Page 1 of 4
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## *Jennings Street School*

assessment.

<b>Diabetes Policy V3. 03.2021</b>	4 Jennings Street LAVERTON VIC 3028 (03) 9360 9322	jennings.street.sch@education.vic.gov.au www.jenningsstreetschool.vic.edu.au	Page 2 of 4
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# Jennings Street School

## Staff Training and Support to Students

Reasonable adjustments will be made for students with diabetes to prevent foreseeable injury and to ensure their inclusion in the educational program:

- determining any additional arrangements required to assist each student, in accordance with the student's Health Support Plan
- ensure that staff undertake appropriate diabetes education. This includes:
  - general education for ALL school staff.
  - specific training for staff closely involved with students with diabetes.  
<https://diabetesatschool.com.au/>
- targeted support for younger students who require assistance to manage their diabetes
- ensuring training is up-to-date and appropriate in light of any changes to a student's Health Support Plan

More information can be found at <https://www.diabetesvic.org.au/>

## Evaluation

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

<b>Date Implemented</b>	25 October 2016
<b>Author</b>	Rosemary Hayes
<b>Approved By</b>	School Council Subcommittee
<b>Approval Authority (Signature &amp; Date)</b>	
<b>Date Reviewed</b>	11/3/2021
<b>Responsible for Review</b>	Policy Subcommittee of school council
<b>Review Date</b>	11/3/2022
<b>References</b>	

V0 - 25.10.2016 – date of implementation

V1 - 13.05.2019 - review

V2 – 06, 2019 – review

V3 – 03 2021 – correct grammar errors, update review box and footer

Diabetes Policy V3. 03.2021	4 Jennings Street LAVERTON VIC 3028 (03) 9360 9322	jennings.street.sch@education.vic.gov.au www.jenningsstreetschool.vic.edu.au	Page 3 of 4
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