1. **RATIONALE**
   It is important that school staff and the parent(s)/caregiver are confident about the management of students who have been identified as being at risk of an anaphylactic reaction (severe allergic reaction). Anaphylaxis is an uncommon occurrence. In most cases, anaphylactic reactions can be prevented with precautions to avoid the known allergen. When anaphylactic reactions occur an emergency response is required.

2. **AIMS**
   Through this policy we aim to:
   - Be aware of the possible dangers to people’s health of peanuts.
   - Minimise the incidence of an anaphylactic reaction due to the consumption of known food allergens.

3. **IMPLEMENTATION**
   - An individual health care plan will be implemented by the parent and the school.
   - An emergency response plan display poster will be displayed in the classroom, sick bay and staff room.
   - Included on the emergency response plan display poster will be:
     o A photo of each person who is anaphylactic.
     o Allergies.
     o Prescribed medication.
     o Emergency contacts.
     o Name, address, phone and fax numbers of the medical practitioner.
   - An EpiPen will be located in the sick bay.
   - The staff will be trained annually in the use of epipens.
   - Each class has lunch in a specified area, which is a focus of supervision.
   - Food for any allergic student should only be approved and provided by the student’s parent.
   - Be aware that craft items can be risky, e.g. egg cartons, milk containers, peanut butter jars.
   - Any sharing of food by students is to be discouraged.
   - The school staff, students, canteen helpers, volunteers and parents will be reminded of this at the beginning of each term through the school newsletter and class discussions.
   - An epipen must be taken on any excursion that anaphylactic students attend. If a student has been diagnosed with anaphylaxis, the individual health care plan must be updated to address the student’s needs on excursions following completion of the Excursion Risk Management Plan. Excursions may pose different hazards to the school environment and the health care plan must be updated accordingly. Anaphylaxis is a potentially life threatening condition. It is a severe and sudden reaction and occurs when a person is exposed to an allergen (such as a food or insect bite). Reactions usually begin within minutes of exposure and can progress rapidly over a period of up to two hours or more.

4. **BUDGET**
   Appropriate funds will be made from the school budget to provide all necessary staff training and equipment.

5. **EVALUATION**
   This policy will be evaluated every three years.