

Anson Street School

**Aerosols and Sprays Policy**

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This policy sets out the requirements for the exclusion of aerosols and sprays within the school.

# Anson Street School

**Reviewed: February 2023**

**Purpose**

To ensure the safety of all students and staff and provide a healthy work/school environment for the school community, **aerosols and sprays are banned from school premises** and all excursions, after school activities and sporting events.

## Context

A number of students and staff at Anson Street School suffer from asthma, and some suffer from severe allergies and anaphylaxis. Aerosols, sprays and perfumes can act as triggers for people who suffer from these conditions, resulting in symptoms such as asthma attacks, headaches, including migraines, and in extreme cases, anaphylactic shock. In addition, aerosols can be dangerous as they contain flammable liquids and can also cause harm if inhaled.

## Policy Statement

Under the [NSW Work Health and Safety Act 2011](http://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/maintop/view/inforce/act%2B10%2B2011%2Bcd%2B0%2BN), the department must do everything reasonably practicable to ensure that students are not exposed to risks to their health or safety while they are at school. Under the Common Law, the department and its staff have a duty to take reasonable care to keep students safe.

Misuse of inhalants/solvents by children and young people is a matter for serious concern. These substances include butane gas, aerosol sprays, petrol, glue, correction fluids, paint thinners and cartridge bulbs for whipped cream dispensers. Inhalants are not illegal substances and it is not an offence to inhale these products.

Drug education content is included in the Personal Development, Health and Physical Education K-10 Syllabus.

## Audience

All students, staff, visitors, contractors and members of the school community.

## School Procedures

Students are encouraged to observe good hygiene practices including showering regularly, wearing clean uniform and applying deodorant before attending school. **Roll-on and stick deodorants are permitted for use at school.**

Students and staff are also encouraged not to wear strong scented deodorants, perfumes or colognes.

If students and/or staff are affected by aerosols or sprays they should seek medical assistance at the administration office and notify the Principal.

Confiscation of aerosols and spray/perfume bottles

For safety reasons, if a teacher is aware that a student has an aerosol or spray bottle in their possession, the following procedure will occur:

1. The teacher will request that the student hand them the aerosol or spray bottle. The teacher will secure the aerosol or spray bottle in the locked classroom storeroom. The teacher will also create a Sentral record for the incident.

2. The teacher will notify the student’s parent/guardian of the incident by phone call and inform that the student cannot bring the aerosol or spray bottle on school premises. The Principal will be notified.

3. Students can collect their aerosol or spray bottle at 3:00pm.

4. If a student refuses to hand over the aerosol or spray bottle, the teacher will follow school procedures and call for executive assistance.

Action if Aerosols, Sprays and Perfumes are used

Use of an aerosol, spray or perfume can cause injury to self and others. Repeat occurrences will result in a formal caution being issued. Breach of the formal caution requirements will require a suspension.

## Record Keeping

Instances of aerosol use must be logged as an incident on Sentral. Any illness or injury that results from the use of aerosols requires the school to follow Health and Safety procedures including providing first aid (including emergency care) and calling the Incident Report and Support Hotline.

Formal caution and suspension documentation is recorded through Sentral, issued to parents and kept in student files. Education and reinforcement of school expectations will occur through whole school PBL expectations and lessons and individualised for students using Wellbeing processes.

## References

<https://policies.education.nsw.gov.au/policy-library/associated-documents/drugs_schools.pdf>

<https://policies.education.nsw.gov.au/policy-library/policies/drugs-in-schools-policy>

<https://policies.education.nsw.gov.au/policy-library/policies/student-health-in-nsw-public-schools-a-summary-and-consolidation-of-policy>

