



Australian Paediatric Society

Type 1 e-learning modules – <https://www.t1d.org.au/>

Letter to parents of children with Type 1 at school

Our aim is to support your child and the staff caring for your child in the school environment. Our experience is that school staff are generally extremely enthusiastic to help your child but frequently lack the education and understanding about Type 1 Diabetes. There is ample provision of generic basic information about Type 1 but very little information available to help staff understand the medical and technical aspects of daily management.

In addition, supervising and administering insulin, a Schedule 4 drug has associated legal obligations. This has created concern for some diabetes teams and those school staff without appropriate training and informed parental consent. Training for implementing the prescribed medical treatment must be done by the medical team or their authorised delegate and consented by the parent.

The Australian Paediatric Society, through experienced clinical medical staff and Credentialed Diabetes Educators over 4 states, have taken a National approach consistent with Federal Government Diabetes Strategy and produced free e-learning courses for Australian school staff based on the successful anaphylaxis training modules. The e-learning modules are based on the 2014 International Society of Paediatric and Adolescent Diabetes (ISPAD) guidelines and designed to provide timely, high-quality, person-focused, flexible but evidence based information for schools and families.

Our diabetes team recommends you work with the school to request their completion of the modules appropriate to their level of involvement with your child. For example, we encourage school staff with direct involvement with your child (class teacher, PE teacher, art teacher etc to complete levels 1 (20 minutes) and 2 (40 minutes). If there is a requirement to administer insulin some staff, if they volunteer and it is within their scope of practice as determined by their employer, should also complete level 3 (40 minutes). We recommend all school staff at your school gain a basic understanding of Type 1 by completing the level 1 course.

Ideally staff involved in the care of your child will complete this course in conjunction with (or in addition to) a school visit from our team either in person or by videoconference. Staff can print a certificate to show they have completed the e-learning modules which will assist our team in providing diabetes training to your child's school.

We strongly recommend you present this letter to the school and request the school staff complete the module certification. The modules have already met with great support and enthusiasm from families and especially school staff who want to facilitate the best outcomes for children with Type 1.

The modules can easily be found at <https://www.t1d.org.au/>

Your Diabetes Team