

## SANITARY PRODUCTS – SCHOOL COMMITMENT

---

### **Overview**

This commitment supports the attendance, wellbeing and engagement of students through the provision of sanitary products when needed.

### **Rationale**

Sanitary products will be readily available so that students feel comfortable and in this way they are better equipped for learning.

At Athelstone School, we believe that our school should provide a safe, educationally stimulating and success oriented environment. In order to fully participate and to gain the maximum benefit from the learning and care, all students must attend school every teaching day. Access to sanitary products is an important part of the support that may be required to best assist our students to learn and achieve.

### **Detail**

All students who may need sanitary products so that access does not present a barrier to learning will be provided with them in a way that is respectful and ensures easy access from a range of access points. This will be informed by student voice and tailored to individual school and student needs.

Student voice is evident within the design, distribution, promotion and review of our provision. Students will be supported to have a say on:

- informing which range of products will be available
- how our school can address hidden barriers of access
- how our school can account for different needs or reasons for accessing products
- where students would like to access products
- how all students, all staff and all parents will be informed of details of the product provision.

After consultation with our students, these products are available through the Assistant Principal, wellbeing and inclusion, our pastoral care worker and the front office.

### **Roles and responsibilities**

#### **The principal will:**

- Support the provision of sanitary products when needed.

- Ensure that student voice informs the range of sanitary products available, where and how products will be accessed, and how information about product provision will be communicated.
- Ensure students, regardless of gender identity, are informed about the options available to access sanitary products.
- Provide a safe discreet place or places for students to access sanitary products if and when needed.
- Ensure all staff, including male staff, are informed about the options available to access products and equipped to support students to access products.
- Ensure that a budget allocation is made each year to support this provision.
- Develop whole-school strategies for reducing menstrual stigma and embarrassment through education and mentoring.

**Teachers will:**

- Allow students ready access to sanitary products and to facilities whenever needed.
- Ensure that access to products increases student comfort and confidence, reduces embarrassment and where possible reflects student preferences.
- Help reduce menstrual stigma through positive role modelling and education.

**Administration staff will:**

- Allow calm, discreet access for students who need sanitary products without judgement and with encouragement.

**Student Wellbeing Leader/Coordinator will:**

- Develop strategies to engage with students of all relevant ages to gain input on availability of products through the use of student voice.
- Develop strategies to empower and educate students to reduce menstrual stigma.
- Ensure that access to products increases student comfort and confidence, reduces embarrassment and where possible reflects student preferences.
- Evidence how student voice is shaping a review of provision with new distribution methods developed into the future.
- Allow students ready access to sanitary products as needed.

**Parents will:**

- Discuss with students of the relevant age to foster respect and dignity of others.
- Reinforce the provision of products at home where possible.

**Evaluation**

Students will be encouraged to participate in decision making, including review of our provision through school based channels such as student leadership groups and class meetings, as appropriate.

Version: 2023

Review: 2024