

Insurance (including Personal Property Damage, Medical Expenses and Personal Accident/Injury) Policy

PURPOSE

To explain Northern School for Autism's policy in relation to personal property, medical and other insurance and to ensure that special or valuable items of personal property are not brought to school or on school excursions.

SCOPE

This policy applies to all school activities, including camps and excursions. This policy applies to staff and students.

POLICY

The Department of Education (which includes Northern School for Autism) does not have insurance for accidental injuries or accidental property damage/loss. However, in some circumstances, medical or other expenses may be paid by the Department where it is assessed that it is likely, in all the circumstances, that the injury or property damage/loss was sustained as a result of the Department failing to meet their duty of care. For more information about the Department's public liability claims process, please see [Legal claims, subpoenas, summonses and other legal documents](#).

Northern School for Autism encourages parents and carers to consider obtaining their own accident insurance for students and property of value that may be brought to school or on a school excursion.

Personal Property

Northern School for Autism understands that staff and/or students may sometimes like to bring items of personal property to school or on school excursion.

Northern School for Autism encourages staff and students not to bring items of value to school or on school excursions, or to obtain appropriate insurance for such items.

The Department of Education and Training does not have insurance for personal property of staff, students and visitors. The school does not take responsibility for items of personal property (including electronics such as iPads, laptops, mobile phones etc) that are lost, stolen or damaged at school or during school activities. Damage to personal property brought to school or on school excursions is the responsibility of the owner of that property.

Damage to personal property brought to school is the responsibility of the owner of that property.

If students bring items of value to school, they will be confiscated and stored securely at in the School Office until the end of the day, when the items may be collected by the student and/or parent/carer.

It is recommended that parents, carers, staff and volunteers consider insurance policies that can be purchased from commercial insurers.

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<http://www.northernautism.vic.edu.au/web/>

Student medical expenses

Parents/carers are reminded that the Department of Education (DE) and Northern School for Autism do not provide personal accident or ambulance cover for students.

- In the event that a student is injured at school or while participating in a school activity (including offsite) and requires medical treatment, parents/carers are responsible for all of their child's medical expenses. This includes transport costs such as ambulance costs (which may include an air ambulance if considered necessary)
- In a medical emergency, Northern School for Autism will prioritise the child and may not call parents/carers if an ambulance is required, until after an ambulance is called, depending on the situation
- Northern School for Autism encourages parents and carers to consider obtaining ambulance cover (see [Membership - Ambulance Victoria](#)) and/or appropriate medical insurance. Students' accident insurance policies are available from the private insurance market. These cover a range of medical expenses not covered by Medicare. They can be obtained by parents/carers for individual students.

COMMUNICATION

This policy will be communicated to our school community in the following ways:

- Annual reminders in our school newsletter
- Available publicly on our school's website
- Discussed at annual staff briefings/meetings/ staff handbook
- Included in transition and enrolment packs
- Reminder included in the School Diary
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

RELATED POLICIES AND RESOURCES

- the Department's Policy and Advisory Library (PAL):
 - [Claims for Property Damage and Medical Expenses](#)
 - [Legal Claims, Subpoenas, Summonses and Other Legal Documents](#)
 - [Insurance for Schools](#)

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	Oct 2026
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	Oct 2029 – noting that the recommended minimum review cycle for this policy is 3 to 4 years

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