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Life Saving Resources For WA Children

Dr Mike Nahan, the Member for Riverton said teachers and childcare service staff are set to receive world-class resources and training that could one day save the life of a child.

Resource kits and training will be introduced across the State to support all schools and childcare services to protect children suffering potentially deadly anaphylaxis. The resources would be released across the State helping to ensure staff know what to do in the case of an emergency.

"WA children will have access to the most comprehensive and current anaphylaxis resources available anywhere in Australia. These resources are among the best in the world," said Dr Nahan.

"This is a groundbreaking initiative which will, for the first time, provide clear guidelines and training for teachers, childcare service workers and parents on how to manage anaphylaxis."

Anaphylaxis is a sudden and severe allergic reaction that can be triggered by exposure to certain substances such as foods, medications and insect stings and bites, which impacts on the lives of many children in WA each year.

"The kits will be distributed in February and include guidelines, adrenaline auto-injector training devices, and other publications and tools to manage anaphylaxis," said Dr Nahan.

"Free certified training to support the kits will be provided by community health nurses from Child and Adolescent Community Health and the WA Country Health Service, with specialist support from the Immunology Department at Princess Margaret Hospital, throughout the 2010 school year."

More information on anaphylaxis management can be found at the website <http://www.health.wa.gov.au/anaphylaxis> or by calling (08) 9222 2350.

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