

Asthma affects 1 in 10 people. Aerosol spray cans are one of the possible triggers for an asthma attack. Exposure to aerosol sprays can also cause headache, migraine, nausea, dizziness, shortness of breath, throat irritation and skin rash.

When used, the liquid contained in these sprays is emitted into the air under high pressure, creating a fine mist which can spread quite a long way. The chemicals and strong smells in the mist, when inhaled, are what can trigger asthma symptoms and a possible attack. Because of the amount of time the spray stays in the air and the distance it can travel, even spraying some distance from the person with asthma can still lead to problems.

Urrbrae Agricultural High School has had several instances of a staff member or student having a severe allergic reaction to spray/ aerosol deodorant being used within the school, resulting in severe breathing difficulties and emergency medical treatment.

After investigation and consultation, an Urrbrae Agricultural High School Aerosol Spray Can Use Procedure has been developed to protect the health and wellbeing of students, staff, and visitors. The procedure can be accessed through the school website. The following rules, expectations and procedures are put in place:

- **All personal hygiene aerosol spray cans such as deodorants, body sprays, hair sprays and perfumed sprays are banned from this site and must not be brought to school.** This includes all excursions, camps or other onsite or offsite activities.
- Aerosol cans found at school with students will be confiscated.
- Confiscated aerosol spray cans will be stored, as per flammable substance requirements, stored and disposed of appropriately.
- Confiscated aerosol spray cans will not be returned to students but disposed of appropriately.
- Repeated offences will be treated as endangering people's health and safety by wilful disregard of school rules and will be managed with by the school's behaviour management processes.

Students are encouraged to observe good hygiene practices including showering regularly, wearing clean uniform and applying deodorant before leaving home. **Acceptable alternative hygiene products that can be safely used at school include roll-on, crystal and stick deodorant/antiperspirants, or hygiene wipes.**

We appreciate your understanding and support to ensure a safe and healthy working environment for all students and staff at Urrbrae Agricultural High School.