



## ST PIUS X CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL ASTHMA POLICY

Originally Released 2011  
Due for Review 2015  
Reviewed 2016

### INDIVIDUAL ACTION PLANS

- A current Student Asthma Record Form must be completed by the parent at the beginning of each school year. The Asthma Plan information must be completed and signed by a Doctor.
- The original is to be kept in the office with Asthma Officer. Officer to distribute information to principal and staff and Asthma Plan will be posted on noticeboard in staffroom.
- Canteen will be notified of students whose asthma is triggered by foods.

### ASTHMA MEDICATION

- Students should keep their reliever medication in their school bag for use during the day if required. A 'spacer' device should also be kept in their bag to assist with fast and more effective delivery of the medication.
- The school will keep the required amount of Ventolin inhalers stored in the first aid cupboards. The required amount of 'spacers' should be stored in the First Aid Room.  
< 300                      2 inhalers                      1 spacer
- School 'spacers' must be cleaned after use. It must be separated into 2 parts, washed in warm water containing diluted detergent, left to air dry and when dry, reassembled ready for use. Do not rinse body of spacer. Mouthpiece is to be cleaned with hot water.

### EXCURSIONS, CAMPS & SPORTING EVENTS

#### Camps

- Parents/carers will be notified of their responsibility to ensure that their child has an adequate supply of appropriate medication.
- A minimum of 1 staff member capable of managing an acute asthma attack shall be present.
- Students are encouraged to carry their own medication.
- Class Teachers to take their Medical File as this has a copy of each child's Medical Alert and on the back is the Asthma Action plan signed by the Doctor.
- Take First Aid kit, which contains Ventolin inhalers and Spacer.
- Take mobile phone.

**Excursions** (this includes school swimming lessons)  
Same as for camps

### **Sporting Events**

- Parents/carers will be notified of their responsibility to ensure that their child has an adequate supply of appropriate medication.
- A minimum of one staff member capable of managing an acute asthma attack shall be present.
- Students are encouraged to carry their own medication.
- Take First Aid Kit.
- Take mobile phone.

It is important to remember that each Asthmatic child has an individual Action Plan each will require differing amounts of puffs and times required.

### **EMERGENCY PROCEDURES**

In the event of an attack the student's medical emergency plan (Asthma Action Plan) should be followed. If documentation is not available the steps below should be taken immediately. Should the student's own reliever puffer not be readily available, a reliever puffer should be obtained from First Aid Kit or Staff Room.

#### ***IT DOES NOT MATTER WHAT BRAND OF BLUE RELIEVER PUFFER IS USED.***

Step 1 Sit the student upright, remain calm and provide assurance. Do not leave the student alone.

Step 2 Give 4 puffs of a blue reliever puffer (Airomir, Asmol, Bricanyl or Ventolin), one puff at a time, preferably through a spacer. Ask the student to take 4 breaths from the spacer after each puff.

Step 3 Wait four minutes.

Step 4 If there is a little or no improvement repeat steps 2 and 3.  
If there is little or no improvement, call an ambulance immediately.  
Continue to repeat steps 2 and 3 while waiting for the ambulance.  
If the attack is severe, the student's parents should be contacted.

Reliever puffers are safe. An overdose cannot be given by following the instructions outlined. However, it is important to note the student may experience harmless side effects of shakiness, tremor or a racing heart.

### **EDUCATION**

#### **Staff**

- Staff are required to have Asthma information training on a regular basis.
- Posters are to be displayed in the First Aid Room/Staffroom at all times.

#### **Students**

- Asthma awareness is to be included in the school health curriculum and covered at least once per year.

#### **Parents**

- Parents are to be offered Asthma information sessions once per year.
- Newsletter inserts are to be used as often as possible.