

ASTHMA MANAGEMENT POLICY

RATIONALE

Toolangi Primary School recognises that students diagnosed with asthma need to be supported. Anyone with Asthma can have a severe attack, even those with mild Asthma. The school has a duty of care to have an understanding of asthma and what can trigger it in individual students, as well as provide support and treatment if it is required.

AIMS

- To provide a safe and supportive environment in which students at risk of Asthma can participate equally in all aspects of the student's schooling.
- To engage with parents/carers of students at risk of asthma in assessing risks, develop risk minimisation strategies and management strategies for the student.
- To ensure that each staff member has adequate knowledge about Asthma and the school's policy and procedures in responding to a student suffering Asthma.

GUIDELINES

The school must have for each student diagnosed with Asthma

- A written Asthma Care Plan/Student Health Support Plan
- Students will need to have their medication available to them at any time.
- Information about students diagnosed with asthma risk will be communicated to all staff
- All staff must know the emergency procedure in the event of an Asthma attack
- Casual replacement staff will be alerted to those students in the class with special medical needs including asthma. A photo of the student together with relevant information is located in a prominent position in the staff room.
- Strategies to reduce risk of exposure to Asthma triggers will be discussed between students, staff and parents.
- The school will keep all information regarding students at risk up to date and annually review the Asthma Care Plans.
- All staff with a duty of care for students will be trained to assess and manage an asthma emergency and will complete an Asthma Education session at least every three years.
- Regular updates related to students with Asthma will be communicated to staff.
- All staff will be given information about students who have been diagnosed with Asthma and what may trigger their Asthma.

IMPLEMENTATION

- All staff will be responsible for the implementation of the Asthma Policy
- Asthma medication must be taken by students to all school camps, sporting events, excursions and other special events.

- The school should additionally ensure that enough Asthma emergency kits are available for the camp or excursion needs
- The student's parent/carer is responsible for ensuring that the Asthma Care Plan is kept up to date
- Parents of students diagnosed with Asthma should encourage their child to learn how to manage their Asthma including recognizing known triggers.
- The Asthma Care Plan should be:
 - Completed by the students medical/health practitioner in consultation with the parents/carers
 - Provided annually by the doctor to the parent/carers and in turn the parents/carers to the school
- Medication stored at school should be renewed when expiry date is reached. The school is to be responsible for alerting parents to pending expiry date.

Asthma Emergency Plan

- Parents must complete an annual Asthma Emergency Action Plan for all students that have been diagnosed with Asthma. There are sections of the plan that will need to be completed by the family doctor.
- An ambulance will be called for a student experiencing a severe Asthma attack.
- Parents will be notified should their child experience a severe Asthma attack.
- Regular training and updates will be provided for every staff member in recognizing and responding appropriately to Asthma.

This policy will be revised during the life of the School strategic Plan; 2013 - 2017