



SACRED HEART SCHOOL MUNDARING

School Policy

ASTHMA POLICY

RATIONALE

Sacred Heart School owes a duty of care to all students and as such, foreseeable risks from members of the school community suffering asthma attacks need to be minimized. Due to its frequency of occurrence, we also believe it imperative the whole school community is educated and informed on a regular basis in the prevention and maintenance of asthma.

PRINCIPLES

1. Sacred Heart School is endorsed as an Asthma Friendly School and is therefore committed to ensuring the whole school community is informed on a regular basis about asthma; its condition, frequency of attack, types of triggers and the treatments involved.
2. Asthma education is provided for all school staff to ensure they are trained in recognising the symptoms of asthma and varying forms of treatment they may be required to administer.

PROCEDURES

1. Information about any student suffering from asthma shall be collected at enrolment and at other times during the course of a student's time at the school e.g. parental consent forms for camps/excursions. Should such information indicate risk of a severe asthma attack, the school shall seek medical advice through the parents/guardians.
2. A list of students suffering from asthma, along with its frequency, triggers and treatment involved, is to be given to all teachers at the commencement of the school year, or when a new staff member is employed. This same list is to be displayed the staffroom and to be contained in the First Aid Box. A photograph is to be displayed of any student who has submitted to the school, a detailed action plan recommended by a practitioner. This action plan will also be on view for teachers to become familiar with.
3. Student files kept in the administration area are to be marked with a blue dot if a student suffers from asthma.
4. Individual classroom teachers to be aware of students under their control suffering from asthma, their frequency, any triggers and the treatment required.
5. Ensure appropriate medications are readily available at all times to those students with asthma. Students should be encouraged to carry or have available appropriate asthma medication.
6. Asthma records are kept in the Family Details File for each student in the office. Asthma medications, puffers, spacer and a chart explaining how to use the spacer is in the First Aid Kits in the office and in the teacher's resource room.
7. A staff meeting workshop is to be held in first term where the use of medications and procedures for action plans are covered. Ensure all staff are aware of the steps involved in treating an asthma attack.
8. Any child requiring transport by a responsible member of staff, due to an asthma attack, has signed parental responsibility provided through the child's medical history form.

9. An Asthma education program is to be included in the school health curriculum.
10. Staff will be aware of the resource kit for primary schools “Asthma Can’t Stop Me”. Display Asthma First Aid posters.
11. The School Community Health Nurse (when available) is to be actively involved in raising awareness of asthma throughout the whole school community and promoting asthma friendly school strategies.
12. The school is to continue to be part of the “Asthma Friendly Schools Project’ adopting strategies which actively support the whole school community in the management of asthma (Refer to Guidelines for Asthma Friendly Schools in “Asthma Friendly Schools Project” folder).
13. An asthma action plan is to be in place for managing asthma during school sporting activities, excursions or camps. Asthma medications, puffer and spacer, along with list of students suffering from asthma to be taken on all school excursions and sporting events held in other venues than the school grounds.

ASTHMA ACTION PLAN (GENERAL)

In the case of a student or staff member suffering from a serious asthma attack;

- Step 1. Sit the student upright, remain calm and provide reassurance.
DO NOT LEAVE THE STUDENT ALONE. Send another student to the office to alert them that there is a child experiencing an asthma attack. Another staff member will arrange to get the child’s medication and take it to the student experiencing the asthma attack.
- Step 2. Give 4 puffs of a blue reliever puffer (*Airomir, Asmol, Epaq or Ventolin*) one puff at a time, preferably through a spacer device. Ask the student to take 4 breaths from the spacer after each puff.
- Step 3. Wait 4 minutes.
- Step 4. If there is little or no improvement, repeat steps 2 and 3. If there is still little or no improvement, alert administration who will call an ambulance immediately (Dial 000).

Continue to repeat steps 2 and 3 while waiting for the ambulance.

REVIEW HISTORY

Year of Review	Reviewed by	Amendments/Review
2002	School Leadership and Staff	Originally Released
2005	School Leadership and Staff	Reviewed
2008	School Leadership and Staff	Reviewed
2010	School Leadership and Staff	Reviewed
2012	School Leadership and Staff	Reviewed

NEXT REVIEW

Year	Responsibility of
2017	School Leadership and Staff