

POLICY: ASTHMA MANAGEMENT PLAN

1. Rationale

Asthma is a condition that affects many primary school children. It is essential that there is awareness of and understanding amongst school personnel of the symptoms and triggers and most importantly the management of asthma in the school environment.

St Michael's Primary recognises that some students require medication and/or management of health conditions at school.

2. Aim

- 2.1. To raise awareness amongst school personnel of the symptoms and triggers of asthma.
- 2.2. To ensure that all children presenting with asthma have been provided with a clear, precise and documented management plan.

3. Implementation

- 3.1. Parent / guardian to inform the school at the time of enrolment or onset of asthma the severity of the child's asthma.
- 3.2. Parent / guardian to complete school documentation and provide the school with an asthma management plan.
- 3.3. Parent / guardian to provide the school with the appropriate asthma medication for their child.
- 3.4. Asthma medication provided by the parent/ guardian to be kept in the school office unless arrangements have been made for the child to have their medication in the classroom or to carry it with them at all times. Parent to liaise with teacher/office staff as to these arrangements.
- 3.5. Parent/guardian to ensure that the child knows to seek assistance from teacher/office staff if they have any asthma symptoms.
- 3.6. Parent/guardian to ensure that the child has knowledge of how to use their asthma medication.
- 3.7. The school to ensure that there are personnel to assist children who present with symptoms of asthma and need assistance with their asthma medication.
- 3.8. The school to provide in its 'sick-bay' a nebuliser pump, hand-held reliever inhaler devices (Ventolin/Asmol) and a spacer device.
- 3.9. The school to request parents through regular communication that asthmatic children have a current management plan. It is the responsibility of parent / guardian to advise the school of the child's current asthma management plan.
- 3.10. Parent / guardian to inform staff of any change to the child's asthma management plan or medical condition.
- 3.11. Children attending sport classes in school or sporting activities away from school, should carry their own Asthma reliever medication (Ventolin) with them.
- 3.12. Children who attend excursions should carry their own Asthma reliever medication (Ventolin) with them.
- 3.13. Teacher/First Aider to take first aid kit to all excursions and school-based carnivals (Athletics, Swimming, Cross Country) which contains a blue reliever medication (Ventolin/Asmol), a spacer device and instructions on how to use it.
- 3.14. The school to provide expertise inservice to staff in asthma education.

4. Evaluation:

The policy will be evaluated annually.