



The Launceston Preparatory School

Asthma Policy

As an Asthma Friendly School we implement the following:

- All teaching staff members, and some teacher aides, participate in an asthma education programme, including information on how to recognise the signs and symptoms of asthma and the steps involved in managing students with asthma.
- Records of all students with asthma are kept in the office in student files (a central location) as well as a folder in the first aid room with details of individual emergency plans and contact phone numbers.
- An asthma information folder is kept in a central location, to be available to parents/carers and staff at all times.
- A list of all asthmatic children is provided to all teaching staff to enable them to assist students as required.
- We encourage students to carry their asthma medications at all times during physical activities and when outside the school grounds.
- Parents/carers are reminded of their responsibilities to ensure that their children have an adequate supply of the appropriate medication for all school activities.
- Disposable volume spacers, blue reliever puffers and copies of the asthma first aid steps will be kept in the school first aid kits and carried on offsite school activities.
- When participating in the Outdoor Education Programme students will be accompanied by at least one teacher qualified in first aid, asthma management and anaphylaxis management.
- Parents/carers are requested to update asthma medical forms annually and prior to every outdoor education camp.
- All relevant first aid and asthma information will be taken on outdoor education programme activities with the qualified first aid teacher.

- All students with asthma shall be encouraged to participate in all sporting activities.
- Students will participate in an asthma education programme run within the school health curriculum.

If a student has difficulty breathing a staff member will assist the student to follow his/her personal asthma plan. If unsure of this, follow the **Asthma First Aid Plan** immediately whether or not the student is known to have asthma. (This is in accordance with information from the Asthma Foundation.)

ASTHMA FIRST AID

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

Step 2: Give 4 puffs of a blue reliever puffer (e.g. Airomir, Asmol, Bricanyl, Ventolin or individually prescribed puffer for relieving purposes), one puff at a time preferably through a spacer device.* Ask the student to take four breaths from the spacer after each puff.

* Use a Blue reliever puffer on its own if no spacer is available.

Step 3: Wait four minutes. During this time contact the school office and gain assistance from another staff member.

Step 4: If there is little or no improvement, repeat steps 2 and 3.
If there is still little no improvement, call an ambulance immediately – Dial 000 and the child’s parent or guardian.

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

Step 5: Write up a report of the incident and sign the document. Contact the parents if they have not been contacted earlier.