

Asthma Policy

Rationale

"Asthma is a disease of the airways, the small tubes which carry air in and out of the lungs. When you have asthma symptoms the muscles in the airways tighten and the lining of the airways swell and produce sticky mucus. These changes cause the airways to become narrow, so that there is less space for the air to flow into and out of your lungs" (National Asthma Council 2011)

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that Jennings Street School appropriately supports students with a diagnosis of asthma.

Aims

- To provide, as far as practicable, a safe and supportive environment at Jennings Street School in which students with a diagnosis of asthma can participate equally in all aspects of the student's schooling.
- To raise awareness in the JSS community about asthma and the school's asthma management policy.
- To engage with parents/carers of students with asthma in assessing risks, developing risk minimisation strategies and management strategies for the student.

Implementation

- Asthma Care Plan for each student with an asthma diagnosis.
- Asthma Action Plan for each student. This plan refers to the management of asthma emergencies.
- Staff training:
 - Asthma Education training for all staff to be completed once every three years.
 - Emergency Asthma Management training for at least one member of staff, to be completed at least once every three years.
- Minimum of two Asthma emergency first aid kits on site. One of these kits will be located in the first aid room. The other will be a mobile kit, for use on camps and other excursions.
- Asthma first aid posters to be placed in area's around the school where asthma management may take place.
- Consistent with the Administration of Medication policy at Jennings Street School any medication to be administered is to be stored in a container labelled 'student medication' within a locked cupboard in the classroom. Asthma medication will be accessed in order to travel with the supervising staff member throughout the day.
- While the supervising staff member is moving around the school, medication will be easily identified and transported within a classroom emergency medication bag. Each bag will include the medical management plans and the appropriate medication for all students in the classroom. The medication must be returned to the locked cupboard while in the classroom.
- In the event of an asthma attack, the student's individual Asthma Action Plan must be followed, as well as the student's individual Asthma Care Plan.
- The Asthma Care Plan and Action plan must be signed by a medical professional, and discussed in consultation with the student's parents/carers, for any student who has been diagnosed as having asthma.



EVALUATION

This policy will be reviewed annually or more often if necessary due to changes in regulations or circumstances.

Date Implemented	June 2015
Author	Rosemary Hayes
Approved By	Jennings Street School Council
Approval Authority (Signature & Date)	
Date Reviewed	14.06.2017
Responsible for Review	
Review Date	14.06.2019
References	

01.06.2015 – v0 – date of implementation

14.06.2017 – v1 – altered to reflect changes around transportation of emergency medication in a bum bag and back pack