



Lobethal

LUTHERAN SCHOOL

Asthma Friendly Policy

Lobethal Lutheran School is an Asthma Friendly School

Rationale

Lobethal Lutheran School (LLS) is a Lutheran Education Australia School and a school of the Lutheran Church of Australia, committed to providing:-

- The necessary procedures to ensure the health and safety of all persons with Asthma on site at LLS.
- Raising the awareness of Asthma amongst those involved with the organisation
- An environment in which young people with Asthma can participate in all activities to their full potential
- A clear set of guidelines and expectations to be followed with regard to the management of Asthma

Purpose

The aim of this policy is to document strategies for implementation of best practice Asthma management within an educational setting so that:

- All children enrolled at the site who have Asthma can receive appropriate attention as required.
- LLS can respond to the needs of children who have not been diagnosed with Asthma and who have an Asthma attack or difficulty breathing at the site.

Implementation

Asthma management should be viewed as a shared responsibility. To this end each of the key groups within LLS give the following undertakings:

The School will:

- Implement this policy on a daily basis.
- Ensure that staff maintain current Asthma First Aid training and provide them with Asthma Emergency Kits whilst on yard duty.
- Identify students with Asthma during the enrolment process and document this information on PC School Spider.
- Inform class teachers of students with Asthma
- Inform Relief Staff of students with Asthma via Relief folders and contact office staff for Asthma Management Plans.
- Promptly communicate any concerns to parents/carers if they are concerned about the students' Asthma limiting his/her ability to participate fully in all activities.
- Consult with parents/carers of students with Asthma, in relation to the health and safety of their child and the supervised management of the student's Asthma.
- Encourage children of appropriate age and ability to self-manage their Asthma, including using their reliever medication as soon as symptoms develop.
- Regularly maintain all Asthma components of the Asthma Emergency Kit to ensure medication is current and the spacer device or mask (if necessary) are ready to use.

- Providing a mobile Asthma Emergency Kit for use during activities outside the site. This is stored with Excursion First Aid Kits.
- Ensuring that all regularly prescribed Asthma medication is administered in accordance with the student's Asthma Management Plan.
- Identify, and where possible, minimise Asthma triggers as defined in student's Asthma Management Plan
- Ensure that parents/carers of a student with Asthma are made aware of this policy.
- Provide families with the contact details of the Asthma Foundation if further Asthma advice is needed.

The parents/carers are responsible for:

- Inform the school, either upon enrolment or on initial diagnosis, that their child has Asthma.
- Provide all relevant information regarding the student's Asthma via an Asthma Management Plan. Asthma Management Plans are to be updated annually or on a needs basis.
- Notify the school, in writing, of any changes to the Asthma Management Plan, if this occurs, during the year.
- Provide an adequate supply of appropriate medication (reliever) and spacer device clearly labelled with the child's name including expiry dates.
- Consult with the school, in relation to the health and safety of their child and the supervised management of the student's Asthma.

Asthma Action Plans

Plan of action for a student with diagnosed Asthma

The school will follow the plan of action for the emergency management of an Asthma attack consistent with the information provided on the student's Asthma Management Plan and/or the 4 step Asthma first aid plan.

Administer Asthma First Aid according to either:

- The student's Asthma Management Plan as provided by parents/carers and doctor and/or doctor's written instructions

OR where the plan is not available

- Commence the standard Asthma emergency protocol:
 - Step 1: Sit the student upright and remain calm and provide reassurance. Do not leave the student alone.
 - Step 2: Give 4 puffs of a blue reliever, one puff at a time, 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, call an ambulance immediately (Dial 000). Continue to repeat steps 2 and 3 while waiting for the ambulance.
- Parents/Carers will be notified of any medication used for an emergency Asthma attack.

In an emergency the blue reliever puffer can be the student's own, or accessed from the Asthma Emergency Kit. The Asthma Foundation recommends that only staff who are trained in Asthma First Aid should administer blue reliever medication from the Asthma Emergency Kit.

- Notify parents and record any Asthma incident on PC School Spider.

Plan of action for a student who is not known to have Asthma

In this situation staff will:

- Step 1: Call an ambulance immediately (dial 000) and state that the student is having breathing difficulty
- Step 2: Give 4 puffs of a blue reliever, one puff at a time, 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. Continue to repeat steps 2 and 3 while waiting for the ambulance.

Contact parents/carers immediately.

- Notify parents and record any Asthma incident on PC School Spider

This treatment could be lifesaving for a student whose Asthma has not been previously recognized and no harm is likely to result from giving a reliever puffer if the breathing difficulty was not due to Asthma.

Asthma Medical Devices

Asthma Spacers

Asthma spacers are classed as medical devices and are categorised as single person use only. All LLS students will be required to have their own personal spacer when using a LLS reliever puffer. If they require emergency treatment for Asthma by staff, a new spacer will be allocated to that student.

References / Related Policies

The policy should be read in conjunction with:

- The Asthma Friendly Guidelines for Schools and Preschools
- Asthma Foundation SA FAQ's Asthma management in education
- The CHES guidelines
- Education and Care Services National Regulations

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