



# **St Nicholas Catholic High School**

## **Asthma policy**

## Version Control

Current version	Previous version	Summary of changes made
1.1		

Policy Impact Statement	
<b>Policy:</b>	
<b>This Policy has been implemented:</b>	
Fully	
Partially	
Occasionally	
Not at all (give reasons why)	
<b>What revisions need to be made:</b>	
To the Policy?	See Version Control Above
To its implementation?	

# ST NICHOLAS CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

## ASTHMA POLICY

### **Rationale:**

The School:

- Recognises that asthma is a widespread, serious but controllable condition that affects many of our students.
- Encourages students with asthma to achieve their full potential in all aspects of school life, out of hours activities and school trips / residential trips
- Understands the importance of medication being taken as prescribed by the family doctor, hospital or specialist nurse.
- Understands the importance of students being able to access their medication, both in students being able to carry their own inhaler with a spacer and a spare to be available for safe keeping in case the students own inhaler runs out, is lost or forgotten. It is important that parents be responsible for the renewal of this medication.
- Will keep records of students with asthma and the medication they take. This should be indicated by parents/carers on the schools application form whether their child suffers with asthma however mild.
- Will ensure all staff are kept informed of students with asthma
- Will use the services of the school nursing team to provide up-to date asthma training.
- Will work in partnership with all interested parties including the school's staff, school nurses, doctors, parents/carers and students to ensure the policy is planned, implemented and maintained successfully.
- Acknowledges that school staff are not required to administer asthma medication to students (except in emergency situations).
- Understand that it is parent/carers' responsibility to ensure students' inhalers are provided for any school trips.

### **Guidelines and Responsibilities - School**

#### **Record Keeping:**

At the beginning of the school year or when a student joins the school, parents/carers are asked if their child has any medical conditions including asthma – regardless of how mild - which will be entered onto the school SIMS data management system.

The school will produce an asthma register based on information received by parents/carers and will be disseminated to all staff.

The school will review our asthma policy/guidelines and liaise with other relevant parties such as school nurses, governors, parents/carers and students.

#### **Medication:**

The school will allow students to carry their own reliever medication (in accordance with parent/carer instructions – Form C Consent to carry own medication).

Spare inhalers provided by parents/carers will be stored in accessible drawers in the medical room in order that the inhalers can be accessed at any time in the case of an emergency.

Parents/carers need to be aware of expiry dates and provide a replacement inhaler which can be kept in school.

Parents/carers need to be aware that the school has purchased an emergency asthma kit which would only be used in the event of their child sustaining an attack and not having their medication in school. In this event, further medical advice would always be sought and parents/carers informed.

**P.E:**

Students are encouraged to participate fully in PE lessons.

PE staff will be aware of which students have asthma as per the asthma register.

Students should take their medication as required before commencing exercise and be able to rest until any symptoms have resolved.

Students will be encouraged to warm up/cool down thoroughly during their lesson.

Posters will be displayed in the PE changing rooms to remind students to carry their medication with them during PE lessons.

**School Environment:**

The school does all that it can to ensure the school environment is favourable to students with asthma. As far as possible, the school does not use chemicals in Science, Art or D.T. lessons that are potential triggers. Students are encouraged to leave the room if substances are being used at any time which could potentially trigger their asthma.

As far as possible, the school encourages all students travelling on buses or trains to be aware of any behaviour which may trigger an asthma attack.

**Guidelines and Responsibilities – Parents/Carers:****Record Keeping:**

Parents/carers will inform the school if their child has asthma and provide details of medication used.

Parents/carers will ensure any changes are reported to the school (including changes to medication)

Parents/carers will ensure all paperwork is returned to school including:

- Registration forms including medical information
- Consent to carry own emergency medicines – Form C
- School asthma card

N.B. In signing this document you are consenting for the school to administer this medication in the event of an emergency. You may withdraw this consent in writing.

**Medication:**

Parents/carers are responsible for ensuring their child has a reliever inhaler for use during the school day which should be in date and clearly labelled. Failure to provide a spare inhaler will be the responsibility of the parent/carer and the school cannot accept responsibility if students do not have their medication. In the event that a student experiences an asthma attack, the school will contact a parent/carer to bring in medication and if necessary will contact emergency services in order to manage the attack. School will only take responsibility to administer medicines that have been specifically prescribed to the individual student.

Parents/carers will ensure medication (both carried by student and spares held in school) are in date and will replenish this when used or out of date.

Spare inhalers should be sent into school for safe storage in the medical room which is easily accessible to students should they require it.

Parents/carers should ensure students take their medication on all school trips /residential.

Parents/carers should ensure their child has regular asthma reviews with their G.P. hospital or specialist nurse.

Reviewed by: Finance, Resource and Personnel Committee	Date: 22 <sup>nd</sup> May 2018
Ratified by Governing Body	Date: 19 <sup>th</sup> July 2018
Review of Policy Due By	Date: May 2021