

Asthma Policy



Date: November 2016:

Movelles School Values:

Respect, Responsibility, Resilience, Compassion.

Our vision at Movelles Primary School is to empower our students to become successful life-long learners. We will prepare our students to contend with the complexities of an ever changing world, in which creativity, adaptability, teamwork and connectedness to our community and the world are key features. Our school community will practise the core values of *responsibility, respect, resilience and compassion* for all.

Description:

Students with asthma have sensitive airways in their lungs. When exposed to certain triggers their airways narrow, making it hard for them to breathe. All school staff need to be aware of how to assess and manage an asthma emergency and the importance of daily asthma management.

Symptoms of asthma commonly include:

- Cough
- Tightness in the chest
- shortness of breath/rapid breathing
- Wheeze(whistling noise in chest)

Purpose:

To manage asthma sufferers as effectively and efficiently as possible at school and in the After School Care program.

To ensure staff have adequate knowledge about asthma and its treatment.

Implementation:

1. Every student with asthma should have a written Asthma Action Plan, completed by the child's doctor in consultation with the student's carer/parent. Appendix 1

2. This should be housed in the First Aid Room and updated regularly.
3. If a student is repeatedly experiencing asthma symptoms and/or using an excessive amount of reliever medication, their parents/carers should be notified so that appropriate medical consultation can be arranged
4. Asthma Plans must include: details on what to do and details of medications to be used in cases of deteriorating asthma
5. Name address and telephone number of an emergency contact
6. Name address and telephone number of the student's doctor
7. The school will have emergency asthma kits located in different areas of the school :Prep, 1/ 2, 5/ 6, 3 /4 Unit Bases, First Aid room and Gym
8. Emergency asthma kits will include: blue reliever puffer, spacer device, clear instructions on how to use these medications and devices
9. A staff member will be delegated to regularly check expiry dates
10. Students judged to be having a severe asthma attack require emergency medical assistance and an ambulance called
11. When a student has an asthma attack and an Asthma Action Plan, The Asthma First Aid procedure should be taken immediately, if no Action Plan the following procedure should be followed:
 - Step 1: Sit student upright and reassure
 - Step 2: Give 4 separate puffs of a blue reliever (best through a spacer device).

The student is asked to take 4 breaths from the pacer after each puff of medication
 - Step 3: Wait 4 minutes, if there is little improvement repeat Steps 2 and 3.
 - Step 4: If no improvement, call an ambulance, continuously repeating Step 2 and 3 while waiting for an ambulance.
12. Contact parents after calling ambulance and record action.
13. If students are attending camps/excursions, staff should:
 - Take the appropriate number of emergency asthma kits, Asthma action plans.
 - Check there is an enough medication for the period

Evacuation

In the event of an evacuation procedure, a staff member will be nominated to collect asthma emergency kit together with student Asthma Action Plans

Evaluation:

This policy will be reviewed every 3 years

Date: June 2012

Date Implemented:	June 2012
Approved by School Council	
School Council President signature & date	
Date reviewed	
Responsible for Review	Assistant Principal
Review Date	November 2016
References	Victorian Government Schools Policy Advisory Guide