



## Asthma Policy

### Purpose

This policy aims to raise the awareness of asthma amongst those at Early Years at Riverview Preschool to provide the necessary strategies to ensure the health and safety of all persons with asthma. We aim to provide an environment in which children with asthma can participate in all activities to the full extent of their capabilities and provide a clear set of guidelines and expectations to be followed with regard to the management of asthma. Asthma management should be viewed as a shared responsibility between all parties involved.

### The Management will:

- Provide staff with a copy of the Asthma Policy and brief them on asthma procedures upon their appointment at Early Years at Riverview preschool.
- Provide Emergency Asthma Management (EAM) Training to staff and ensure at least one staff member who has completed accredited asthma training is on duty whenever children are being cared for or educated.
- Identify children with asthma during the enrolment process and inform staff.
- Provide parents with a copy of the Asthma Policy and if requested a copy of the Asthma Action Plan upon enrolment
- Store Asthma Action Plans in the child's enrolment record.
- Make sure Asthma Action Plans have been filled out correctly by families
- Formalise and document the internal procedures for emergency Asthma First Aid.
- Ensure that an emergency Asthma First Aid poster is displayed in key locations.
- Ensure that the emergency First Aid Kit contains a blue reliever medication (e.g. Airomir, Asmol, or Ventolin), a spacer device, face mask, concise written instructions on Asthma First Aid procedures and alcohol swabs.
- Ensure that an accredited staff member correctly maintains the asthma component of the First Aid Kit (e.g. regular checks of expiry dates on medication)
- Encourage open communication between parents/guardians and staff regarding the status and impact of a child's asthma.
- Where appropriate, offer information sessions on asthma for parents/guardians.
- Promptly communicate any concerns to parents should it be considered that a child's asthma is limiting his/her ability to participate fully in all activities

### Staff will:

- Ensure that they maintain current accreditation in Emergency Asthma Management (valid for three years).
- Ensure that they are aware of the children in their care with asthma

### ASTHMA FIRST AID PLAN

#### Step 1- Sit the person upright

- be calm and reassuring
- Do not leave them alone.

#### Step 2- Give medication

- Shake the blue reliever puffer



- Use a spacer if you have one
- Give 4 separate puffs into a spacer
- Take 4 breaths from the spacer after each puff

Giving blue reliever medication to someone who doesn't have asthma is unlikely to harm them

**Step 3- Wait 4 minutes**

- If there is no improvement, repeat steps 2.

**Step 4- If there is still no improvement call emergency assistance (DIAL 000).**

- Tell the operator the person is having an asthma attack
- Keep giving 4 puffs every 4 minutes while you wait for emergency assistance

Call emergency assistance immediately (DIAL 000) if the person's asthma suddenly becomes worse

If a child has difficulty in breathing and there is no notification on any written communication from the parents/guardian about them having asthma; call an ambulance immediately, follow the Asthma First Aid Plan and contact the parents immediately.

No harm is likely to result from giving a reliever puffer to someone without asthma.