

## Asthma Policy for Schools

### Policy goal

Our school is committed to ensuring that students with asthma achieve their full potential and take part in every aspect of school life.

### Policy objective

This policy aims to:

- Make provision for the immediate needs and requirements of students who have asthma
- Ensure the physical safety and wellbeing of all students with asthma
- Ensure that adequate resources and arrangements are in place to support students with asthma
- Ensure that procedures are in place for communicating with parents
- Provide training for staff in meeting the needs of children with asthma
- Comply with all legislation relating to safety and welfare at work

### Roles and responsibilities

#### Students:

- ☐ Are supported to self manage their asthma in line with their age and stage of development: we explain asthma and asthma care to students and provide care with, not just to, them
- ☐ Have access to their reliever medication at all times

#### Parents/carers:

- ☐ Provide the school with an Asthma Action Plan (annually), signed by the treating doctor/healthcare professional
- ☐ Provide their child's medication, clearly dated and in the original labelled container. A spacer, and mask as required, should also be supplied
- ☐ Alert staff to any changes in their child's asthma management

#### Staff:

- ☐ Assist students to take their medication if necessary and administer medication in an emergency
- ☐ Allow students to take their medication 15-30 minutes before PE/exercising if necessary
- ☐ Document an asthma attack and advise parents/carers as a matter of priority
- ☐ Have a spacer-and mask- replacement policy: name and give a spacer/mask to a student who used them for their own use in the future-otherwise they need to be disposed of thoughtfully
- ☐ Minimise exposure to known triggers
- ☐ Display the 5 Step Rule poster in each class room, staff room and gym
- ☐ Accompany a student to hospital in the case of an emergency

### Management

- ☐ Meet all legal, regulatory and policy requirements related to health care planning and asthma, and review regularly, including staff training in PHECC first aid course, including administration of Salbutamol
- ☐ Induct new staff in asthma policies and procedures including asthma training and information for all staff
- ☐ Review policies and practices

### Monitor and review

This policy was approved by the Board of Management and is reviewed annually or earlier if required