

# ASTHMA

## YARRAMAN OAKS PRIMARY SCHOOL POLICY

### **Rationale:**

- Asthma is a common condition that affects children and adults. It is important therefore for all staff members to be aware of asthma, its symptoms and triggers, and the management of asthma in a school environment.

### **Aims:**

- To manage asthma and asthma sufferers as effectively and efficiently as possible at school.

### **Implementation:**

- All students with asthma must provide to the school a fully completed up to date (annual) Asthma Foundation Victoria's School Asthma Action Plan developed by their treating practitioner and parents.
- Asthma plans will be provided to Lana in the front office and will be collated into a booklet. Each class teacher and specialist teacher will be provided with a copy of the booklet. A copy of the booklet will also be stored in the office, staffroom and yard duty bags for first aide reference.
- Parents/guardians are responsible for ensuring their children have an adequate supply of appropriate asthma medication (including a spacer if required) with them at school at all times.
- The school will provide, and have staff trained at least every 2 years in the effective management of asthma including the administering of reliever puffers such as Ventolin, Airomir, Asmol or Bricanyl and spacer devices.
- Staff refresher courses will be held internally twice a year.
- At least 2 Asthma First Aid Kits will be located around the school and an additional Kit will be taken on excursions and camps. Clear written instructions on how to use these medications and devices will be included in each first aid kit, along with steps to be taken to treat severe asthma attacks.
- Lana is responsible for checking reliever puffer expiry dates and replacing any out of date puffers.
- Lana is responsible for ensuring Action Plans are up to date.
- All devices used for the delivery of asthma medication will be cleaned appropriately after each use.
- Care must be provided immediately for any student who develops signs of an asthma attack.
- Children suffering asthma attacks should be treated in accordance with their asthma plan.
- If no plan is available children are to be sat down, reassured, administered 4 puffs of a shaken reliever puffer (blue canister) delivered via a spacer – inhaling 4 deep breaths, wait 4 minutes, if necessary administer 4 more puffs and repeat the cycle. An ambulance must be called if there is no improvement after the second 4-minute wait period, or if it is the child's first known attack. Parents must be contacted whenever their child suffers an asthma attack.
- The delegated first aid co-ordinator (Sarah P.S) is responsible for ensuring we maintain our registration as an Asthma friendly school.

### **Evaluation:**

- This policy will be reviewed in one year.

This policy was last ratified by School Council on....

October 2018