



## Diamond Valley Special Developmental School

# Asthma Emergency Response and Communication Plan 2024

### Asthma Emergency Response

If a student/staff member is:

- having an asthma attack
- difficulty breathing with unknown cause, even if they are not known to have asthma
- **will ALWAYS give adrenaline autoinjector FIRST if someone with known asthma and allergy to food, insects or medication has SUDDEN BREATHING DIFFICULTY**

Step	Action
1.	Sit the person upright Be calm and reassuring Do not leave them alone Call for help, 'White Flag' and state location Seek assistance from another staff member to locate the student's reliever, the Asthma Emergency kit and the student's individual Asthma Action Plan (if they have one).
2.	Give 4-6 separate puffs of blue/grey reliever puffer: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Shake the puffer</li><li>• Use a spacer</li><li>• Put 1 puff into the spacer</li><li>• Instruct the student/staff member to take 4 breaths from the spacer</li></ul> <b>Remember – Shake, 1 Puff, 4 breaths</b>
3.	Wait 4 minutes If there is no improvement, give 4-6 more separate puffs of blue/grey reliever as above
4.	If there is still no improvement call '000' for an ambulance Tell the operator the student is having an asthma attack Keep giving 4-6 separate puffs every 4 minutes until the ambulance arrives
5.	If asthma is relieved after administering asthma first aid, stop the treatment and observe the student/staff member Notify the emergency contact for the student/staff member

Staff will call a 'White Flag' for any asthma emergency

Staff will follow an Asthma Action plan

Staff will phone the student's emergency medical contact

Staff will call '000' immediately if:

- The person is not breathing
- If the student/staff member is having a severe or life threatening attack
- If the person's asthma suddenly becomes worse or is not improving
- If the person is having an asthma attack and a reliever is not readily available
- If they are not sure that it is asthma
- If the person is known to have anaphylaxis

## Individual Asthma Action Plans

Parents must provide the school with a current Asthma Action plan completed by the student's medical practitioner

The plan must outline the students known triggers and the emergency procedures to be taken in the event of an asthma flare-up or attack

The asthma action plans must be completed and reviewed annually for each student with asthma

Asthma action plans will be displayed in the student's classroom

Copies of Asthma action plans are stored in the first aid room and on Sentral

## Staff Training

All staff with a direct duty of care responsibility for students will be trained in being able to manage as asthma emergency appropriately.

Training will be conducted every 3 years online or face to face.

Staff will recognise the symptoms of asthma attacks; mild/moderate, severe or life-threatening and treat accordingly

# Student Asthma Kits

All students diagnosed with asthma are required to have a student asthma kit at school which contains:

- Their own reliever medication labelled with the student's name
- Their own spacer

Student asthma kits will be stored in the classroom

Parent/Carer to supply the reliever medication, spacer and mask (if required)

The school will supply and maintain the emergency and excursion asthma relievers and spacers

# Emergency Asthma Kits

Emergency asthma kits are located in the Main office and First Aid room (Brentwick campus)

Whittlesea campus and all Satellite classes have an emergency asthma kit located with first aid kits

Emergency Asthma kits contain:

- 1 blue/grey reliever medication
- 2 spacers (for single person use only)
- Written instructions on first aid asthma
- A record sheet/log for entering the details of a first aid incident, such as number of puffs administered

Excursion asthma kit is located at the main office.

## Further information and Resources

- Asthma Australia
- DVSDS:
  - Asthma Policy
  - Health Care Needs Policy
  - First Aid Policy
- DET School policy and Advisory guide:
  - Asthma
  - Treating an asthma attack
  - Asthma Emergency Kits

This plan was reviewed and updated on the May 7<sup>th</sup> 2024 and is due for review May 2025

