



Avoca National School S. N. PHÁDRAIG NAOFA

**Scoil N. Phádraig Naofa,
Avoca,
Co. Wicklow.
Roll No 18198A**

Asthma Policy

Opening Statement

Our school welcomes students with asthma and recognises the importance of good asthma management. The Board of Management and Staff of Scoil N. Phádraig Naofa, Avoca, Co. Wicklow are committed to ensuring that students with asthma achieve their full potential and take part in every aspect of school life through clear, practical guidelines on the care of asthma. This policy was formulated in April 2019.

Objectives

This policy aims to:

- Make provision for the immediate needs and requirements of students who have asthma.
- Ensure the physical safety and well-being 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

- The overall responsibility for an effective asthma management plan rests with the principal.
- The principal is responsible for arranging asthma management training with Asthma Society of Ireland should it be required.
- The class teacher is responsible for identifying students that present with asthma and familiarising themselves with the 5 Step Rule for dealing with asthma attacks.

- The class teacher should also ensure that students with asthma have access to their medication at all times.
- On excursions, class trips and at sports events outside of school the supervising teacher is responsible for reminding students, in advance, to bring their medication.
- Parents are responsible for making sure their child brings their medication to school each day, including on school trips and sports excursions.
- Parents are responsible for ensuring that the school has spare medication and a spacer in case of emergency.
- Parents or guardians are encouraged to fill out the Asthma Record Sheet at the start of each school year and liaise with the class teacher in order to effectively manage their child's asthma in the school setting.
- The school will contact parents or guardians if their child has an asthma attack

Medication

- All students have access to their reliever medication at all times.
- Students are permitted to take their medication as required and are encouraged to carry their reliever inhaler with them or it may be kept in an easily accessible location in the classroom.
- Parents must provide spare, labelled asthma medication and a spacer device which will be kept in school in case of emergency or in the event of a student forgetting their medication.
- Students will not be permitted on excursions without their medication.
- Staff will administer medication in an emergency.
- Staff will assist students in taking their medication should they need it.
- Parents are notified when their child uses their asthma medication.

Asthma in School

- Staff are familiar with the 5 Step Rule and know the agreed school procedure in the event of an asthma attack.
- The 5 Step Rule is displayed in each classroom.
- Children are provided opportunities to learn about asthma, what to do in an asthma attack and how asthma affects those who have the disease.
- Furry and feathery pets are not permitted in classrooms.
- There is a no smoking policy in place.
- Staff endeavour to plan lessons with asthma in mind and to avoid using known triggers, such as chemicals, perfumes and aerosols in class.

- Staff will notify parents if their child has trouble concentrating, misses multiple school days, or is unable to take part in PE or sport because of asthma.
- Additional support will be put in place for students who miss days due to asthma.
- In the case of emergency the school will ensure that a member of staff accompanies a student to hospital 17 Developing a School Asthma Policy Asthma in PE and Sports Activities
- Students with asthma are encouraged to participate fully in exercise and sport.
- Staff ensure that students with asthma warm up appropriately and take their reliever medication 10 -15 minutes before exercising if necessary.
- Students must have their reliever inhaler with them during sport and exercise activities.
- Staff should vary lessons accordingly to ensure effective participation of all students, including those with asthma. Record Keeping
- All parents of newly enrolled students are asked if their child has asthma.
- An asthma record sheet is given to parents of children with asthma and must be completed and returned during the first week of term one.
- Asthma record sheets must be updated by parents annually or if there are changes to medication.
- Asthma record sheets are added to a register of students with asthma that will be kept confidential.
- Expiry date of medication is checked annually and noted on the asthma record sheet.

Approval and Ratification

This policy was approved by the Board of Management on the 10th of November 2021 This policy will be reviewed in April 2024 or before if necessary

Chairperson – Valerie Twomey

Principal- Mary Cahill

Date -



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Dear Parents,

Scoil N. Phádraig Naofa, Avoca understands that your child suffers from asthma. The school would be grateful if you could supply us with the following information so that we can provide a comprehensive a care plan during his/her school hours

Asthma Record Sheet

Child's Name: _____

Parent(s)/Guardian(s): _____

Address: _____

Mobile Phone Number: _____

Home Phone Number: _____

Work Phone Number: _____

GP Name: _____

GP Phone Number: _____

Out of Hours GP Name: _____

Out of Hours GP Number: _____

Nearest Emergency Department _____

Emergency Department Phone Number: _____

Consultant Name: _____

Consultant Phone Number: _____

Hospital: _____

Hospital Chart Number: _____

Asthma Triggers: _____

Reliever Medication: _____

Dose: _____

Expiry Date: _____

Controller Medication: _____

Dose: _____

Expiry Date: _____

Any Other Information: _____

Declaration

I agree that the medical information contained in this plan may be shared with individuals involved with my child's care and education, including emergency services. I understand that I must notify the school of any changes in writing. I will ensure that

(a) my child carries the appropriate medication in his /her bag at all times

(b) I have left sufficient medication with my child's teacher. It is my responsibility to ensure that the teacher has sufficient and up to date medication at all times.

Should my child have an asthma attack at school, the staff at Scoil N. Phádraig Naofa have my permission to implement the prescribed care plan for my child.

Signed: _____

Date _____