

# St Columba's Catholic School

## Asthma Procedures

### Rationale:

Asthma medication be available for students in order for them to have readily accessible medication and so that they can manage their own asthma. Medication is stored safely but is accessible for those students that it is prescribed for.

The decision to administer medication for asthma is informed by an asthma plan (provided by parents or Dr) and is at the discretion of the classroom teacher/office staff on a case by case basis. Clarification with parents should be sought should the asthma plan not benefit the students health/learning.

### Procedure:

Students who come regularly at break times for asthma medication may need to provide a personal spacer/puffer for office use at break times.

Default administration of medicine is as follows:

1 x puff for every 6 breaths - until breathing stabilises. (Seek advice from the office if unsure).

Ring emergency number for ambulance if the student:

- cannot talk
- is blue around the mouth
- is not gaining relief from medication
- is distressed

Person administering medication should keep track of the amount of medication given and number of breaths between puffs.

Inhalers and spacers should be:

- taken on sports days/trips by the teacher
- be accessible to students requiring puffers, but housed in a safe place.
- used appropriately and according to instructions ie.

a. to relieve symptoms

b. to prevent onset of exercised induced asthma (is taken as needed before exercise).

