



Mount Lilydale Mercy College Asthma Management Policy

1. RATIONALE

- 1.1. Asthma affects around 11% of Australian children and is one of the most common reasons for school absenteeism and hospital admission in school aged children.
- 1.2. Asthma attacks must be identified quickly and treated correctly to ensure the best outcome for students affected. Teachers and staff must be aware of the symptoms, triggers and best practice management of asthma so they can assist their asthmatic students while at school.

2. SCOPE

- 2.1. Mount Lilydale Mercy College (MLMC) Asthma Management Policy addresses the following concerns:
 - A. Individual asthma management plans
 - B. Communication plan
 - C. Procedures for the training of school staff and emergency response
 - D. Risk minimisation
- 2.2. This policy applies to all staff and teachers at Mount Lilydale Mercy College. Asthma management should be viewed as a shared responsibility. While Mount Lilydale Mercy College recognises its duty of care towards children with asthma during their time at the School, the responsibility for ongoing asthma management rests with the child's family and medical practitioner.

3. DEFINITION

- 3.1. Mount Lilydale Mercy College is committed to supporting students who suffer from asthma and assisting them to participate in all college activities.

4. POLICY STATEMENT

It is our policy that Mount Lilydale Mercy College:

- 4.1. Provides a clear set of guidelines for the management of asthma in our college. The guidelines in this policy have been developed having regard to the publications of the Asthma Foundation Australia;
- 4.2. Establishes procedures for responding to and dealing with students who have been diagnosed with asthma and procedures for responding to an asthma attack;
- 4.3. Identifies and, where possible, minimise asthma triggers identified on a student's health plan;
- 4.4. Student medical records and Asthma Action Plans are communicated to relevant staff in a confidential manner, stored appropriately and updated regularly;
- 4.5. Where possible, encourage students with asthma to self-administer medication and keep it on their person at all times;

- 4.6. Inform parents/carers as soon as possible of concerns regarding a student's asthma, particularly where it is limiting the student's ability to participate fully in all activities;
- 4.7. Where necessary, modify activities for the student with asthma in accordance with their needs;
- 4.8. Provide education, support and resources for staff, parents/carers, students and the wider college community on asthma awareness;
- 4.9. Place Asthma Emergency Kits spacer device, Ventolin inhaler and Asthma First Aid Action Plan in appropriate areas within the college and ensure staff know where to access them;
- 4.10. Staff are trained to provide Asthma First Aid and how to use the equipment and medication in our Asthma Emergency Kits; and
- 4.11. Display emergency Asthma First Aid posters in key locations around the college.

5. RELATED POLICIES/DOCUMENTS

- **Asthma Management Policy Implementation Guidelines**

REVIEW HISTORY

Version	Date Released	Next Review	Author	Authorised by:
2.0	August 2023	August 2025	Deputy Principal Pastoral Care	MLMC Advisory Council

Version control added to policy commencing with V2.0 All previous versions are called 1.0 and have been archived and stored accordingly.

Note: Implementation Guidelines is a separate document which outlines the procedures needed to implement the policy