

BRISBANIA BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL & VACATION CARE CENTRE INC

HEALTH

TITLE: MANAGING A CHILD WITH ASTHMA

Status: Current

Date of Origin: Sept 2007

Policy No: P 19

Last Reviewed: May 2020

Policy Statement

Brisbania Before & After School & Vacation Care Centre, will facilitate effective care and health management of children with asthma, and the prevention and management of acute episodes of illness and emergencies.

Background Information:

- Asthma is a condition in which the bronchi (air tubes of the lungs) go into spasm and become narrower. Excess mucous is produced, causing the person to have difficulty breathing. Asthma is particularly common in children.
- Signs and symptoms may be unable to get air, progressively more anxious, short of breath, subdued or panicky, focussed only on breathing, coughing, wheezing, blue around lips, earlobes and fingertips, or unconsciousness.

Procedures:

1. Services will:

- Ensure families provide information on the child's health - medications, allergies, asthma plan completed by a Doctor.
 - Ensure parents/carers are given a copy of the centres; dealing with medical conditions policy.
 - Ensure Regulations and other guidelines are adhered to – administration of medication and first aid.
 - In any case where a child is having an acute asthmatic attack, staff will administer first aid according to the child's Asthma Plan, a Doctor's instructions or a trained certified supervisor who has completed Emergency Management of Asthma in the workplace.
 - Under the Education and Care Services National Regulation 94, in the case of an asthma emergency, medication will be given to the child even without an authorisation and parents/caregivers and emergency services will be notified as soon as possible.
2. Staff will be aware of aspects of the outdoor environment that may be triggers for asthma including but not limited to dust mite, plants, mildew, chemicals, glue, paint and animals.
3. Staff will reduce exposure of children and staff to indoor allergens by: regularly cleaning furniture, toys and equipment, preventing growth of mould, not using chemicals around children and controlling pests.

Acknowledgements

Education and Care Services National Regulations: 90-96.

National Quality Standards: 2.1.1, 2.1.4, 2.3.2

*Network of Community Activities 'Policies in Practice, A handbook of day to day policies for OOSH Centres' – www.netoosh.org.au

Gosford City Council - www.gosford.nsw.gov.au

□ NSW Department of Health, NSW Public Health Unit - www.health.nsw.gov.au

□ St. John Ambulance Australia - www.sjaa.com.au

□ Vital First Aid - www.1staid.com.au

□ The Asthma Foundation of NSW - www.asthmansw.org.au

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