

Children's Asthma and Diabetes Policy

Aim

The centre aims to provide appropriate attention and care to children with asthma/diabetes and ensure that such children are integrated into all activities. We encourage play and exercise for children with asthma/diabetes. All Educators will uphold and implement positive beliefs and values in relation to children with asthma/diabetes to develop a sense of security and confidence. Educators will assist children with asthma/diabetes, other children, visitors and families to understand asthma/diabetes and medication in a positive manner.

Implementation

Management will:

- Identify children with asthma/diabetes during the enrolment process.
- Provide all affected families with a copy of the Children's Asthma and Diabetes Policy upon enrolment.
- Provide Educators with a copy of the Asthma and Diabetes policy.
- Opportunities for Educators to attend regular asthma training should be encouraged and made available.
- Provide an Asthma/Diabetes Record to all families of children with asthma/diabetes on enrolment.
- Ensure all Educators are informed of the children with Asthma/Diabetes in their care.
- Encourage open communication between families & Educators.
- Identify and where possible, minimise asthma/diabetes triggers using appropriate techniques, policies and procedures.
- Will follow all plans and records put in place by the family doctor, the Nominated Supervisor will also write up a risk management plan for the child while at OOSH.

Educators will:

- Ensure that they maintain current Asthma First Aid/Diabetes Training.
- Ensure that they are familiar with each child with asthma/diabetes in the care.
- In regular consultation with families, optimise the health and safety of each child through supervised management of the child's asthma/diabetes.
- Will follow all management plans that are put in place from management, families or professionals.
- Only administer prescribed and approved medication.
- No medication prescribed for anyone other than a particular child will be given.
- All medication must be clearly marked with the child's name and be stored appropriately.
- Ensure that all regular prescribed asthma/diabetes medication is administered in accordance with the information on Child's Asthma/Diabetes Record.
- Medication is to be administered (on a non-emergency basis) and is to be recorded accurately by the parent/guardian, in relation to time and dosage, and will be signed by an Educators on its administration.
- Communicate without undue delay to management and families, if they are concerned about a child's asthma/diabetes limiting his/her ability to participate fully in all activities.
- Provides families with details of Asthma/Diabetes Foundation.
 - <http://www.asthmaact.org.au/>
 - 1800 645 130

Families will:

- Formally inform Educators and the centre, either upon enrolment of their child with Asthma/Diabetes or on initial diagnosis (without undue delay), that their child has a history of asthma/diabetes.
- Provide a completed and signed Risk Minimisation Plan for a Medical Condition form to the OOSH Centre prior to enrolment.
- Provide all relevant information regarding the child's asthma/diabetes via the Asthma/Diabetes Record as provided by the child's doctor.

- Notify the centre Educators, in writing, of any alterations to the Asthma/Diabetes Record.
- Ensure that their child maintains adequate supply of appropriate medication (reliever) and spacer device clearly labelled with the child's name including expiry dates.
- Communicate all relevant information and concerns to Educators as the need arises.
- Parent/guardian must give written authority for medication to be dispensed by filling in a Medication Form. If the Medication Form is not filled in, except in the case of an emergency, medication will not be administered on that day.

In the event of a child having an asthma attack whilst at the centre:

1. The child will be positively reassured, calmed and removed to a quiet area under the direct supervision of a suitably experienced and trained Educators.
2. Asthma/Diabetes medication will be administered as outlined in the child's Asthma/Diabetes Record Form.
3. The parent/guardian will be contacted by phone immediately if Educators become concerned about the child's condition.
4. In the event of a severe attack, the Ambulance service will be contacted on 000 immediately and the 4 Step Asthma/Diabetes First Aid Plan will be implemented until Ambulance officers arrive.

Related Procedures/Policies/Forms

- Emergency ASTHMA First Aid procedure

Legislative Requirements

- Education and Care services National Law Act 2011
- Occupational Health & Safety Act 1989
- Australian Children's Education & Care Quality Authority

Who is affected by this policy?

- Children and Families
- Educators and Management

Sources and further reading:

- Asthma Foundation <http://www.asthmaact.org.au>
- Health & Safety in Children's Services Model Policies and Practices
- Occupational Health & Safety Act

Review: This policy will be reviewed annually. The review will be conducted by:

- Management and Employees
- Interested Parties (Including Families, NSW Early Childhood Education and Care Directorate Department of Education and communities, ACECQA etc.

Last Reviewed: January 2020

