



College council will review this policy every three years or as directed by DET

**Date approved:** June 2018

**Date of next review:** 2021

## **RATIONALE**

Asthma is one of the most common causes of absenteeism in schools and the most common cause of hospitalisation of young people. One in seven adolescent children has asthma. Doncaster Secondary College recognises that this condition can be serious and life threatening so it is crucial that staff are well equipped to deal with instances of asthma.

## **AIM**

Asthma is treatable and preventable and with the right encouragement, support and education the students at Doncaster Secondary College can lead full and normal lives – this is our aim.

## **BROAD GUIDELINES**

Doncaster Secondary College will cater for students suffering from asthma by:

- Training staff in how to respond to mild to severe attacks and calling an ambulance to assist when required;
- Having asthma medication readily available to students both at the Health Centre and in first aid kits located around the College and taken on excursions and to sporting activities;
- Ensuring that students suffering asthma have asthma action plans which are updated annually;
- Ensuring that asthma action plans and medication are available for first aiders attending College camps;
- Ensuring protocols are in place for students suffering asthma including:
  - students being permitted to leave class at once when the need arises for treatment;
  - students being able to carry asthma medication with them at all times;
  - students being encouraged to use medication via a spacer to assist with fast and more effective delivery of reliever medication; and
  - students being encouraged to use reliever medication before sport to prevent attacks.
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- Offering asthma education within the health curriculum;
- Offer asthma education to parents via the College Newsletter