

# **ASTHMA POLICY**

# COLLEGE STATEMENT

Victory Christian College will fully comply with the Schools Policy Advisory Guide which is published and amended by the Department of Education from time to time. This Asthma Policy will be reviewed annually by appropriate staff under the supervision of the Principal.

### **STAFF TRAINING**

All Teaching, Administration and relevant Support staff will complete an Asthma First Aid Management Course online through the Asthma Foundation's website. This course is valid for three years.

At the start of each school year, all staff with a direct student wellbeing responsibility, will attend a briefing session in regards to Asthma, conducted by an instructor who has completed one of the following courses:

- Management of Asthma Risks and Emergencies in the Workplace 22282VIC
- Emergency Asthma Management 10392NAT.

This briefing session will cover the following topics:

- College Asthma Policy
- The causes, symptoms and treatment of Asthma
- Identities of students diagnosed with Asthma, and where their medication is located.
- How to use a Puffer and Spacer.
- College general First Aid and Emergency Response procedures.
- Location of, and access to, asthma medications that have been provided by parents or purchased by the school for general use.

For any new staff, this briefing will be conducted as required by relevant trained staff or providers. The Principal will ensure that while students are under the care or supervision of the school, including excursions, yard duty, camps and special event days, there is a sufficient number of College staff present who have successfully completed Asthma training.

# INDIVIDUAL ASTHMA RISK MINIMISATION PLANS

The Principal, in conjunction with relevant staff members, will ensure that an Individual Asthma Risk Minimisation Plan (Appendix 1) is developed, in consultation with the student's parents, for any student who has been diagnosed by a medical practitioner with Asthma.

The Individual Asthma Risk Minimisation Plan will be in place as soon as practicable after the student enrols, and where possible, before their first day of school for the year.

The following points will be included in an Individual Asthma Risk Minimisation Plan:

- Information about the diagnosed students, Asthma, including the types of triggers the student has based on a written diagnosis from a Medical Practitioner.
- Strategies to minimise the risk of exposure to known and identified triggers while the students are under the care or supervision of school staff, for in-school and out-of-school settings including in the school yard, on camps and excursions, or at special events conducted, organised or attended by the College.
- The name or positions of the people responsible for implementing the strategies.
- Information about where the medication will be stored.
- An Asthma Action Plan for Victorian Schools for each student diagnosed with Asthma.

The College will implement and monitor the student's Individual Asthma Risk Minimisation plan. This plan will be reviewed, in consultation with the student's parents, in the following circumstances:

- Annually
- If the student's medical condition changes
- As soon as practicable after the student has a life-threatening or severe Asthma Attack at the College.
- When the student is to participate in an off-site Special Event, all-day Excursion, or Camp.

# PARENT RESPONSIBILITY

It is the Parent's responsibility to:

- Provide the students updated Asthma Action Plan (Appendix 2) to the College every 12 months.
- Inform the College via Operoo, or in writing, if the student's medical condition relating to Asthma changes. If relevant, an updated Asthma Action Plan will need to be provided.



- Ensure that an up-to-date photo is provided to the College if their child does not have a digital College photo available.
- Ensure that up-to-date medication is provided to the College and is maintained. This medication will include a spacer if that is required by the student.

## **COLLEGE PREVENTION STRATEGIES**

- Professional Development in regard to Asthma will be provided to all staff with a direct student wellbeing responsibility.
- Principal, First Aid Officer or other delegated Staff member will ensure a communication poster will be created to place around staff rooms with the names of students with an Asthma diagnosis.
- The Principal, First Aid Officer or other delegated Staff member will ensure all Asthma Action Plans provided by Parents are up-to-date. If the plan is out-of-date, a letter will be sent home to the family with a reminder to provide an updated plan to the College.
- The Principal, First Aid Officer or other delegated Staff member will ensure all Asthma Medication, both the College supplies and the medication provided by a parent, is within date.
- The Principal, First Aid Officer or other delegated Staff member will ensure there the adequate supply of disposable Asthma spacers
- The College will continue to comply with the accreditation needed to be recognised as an 'Asthma Friendly School'. This accreditation is to be renewed every three years.
- Asthma Action Plans will be copied and scanned to both the student's physical personal file and to their Xuno file so that staff and teachers will have access.

#### **COLLEGE MANAGEMENT AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE**

- When a new child enrols and their enrolment form states that they have Asthma, the Enrolments Registrar will
  notify the First Aid Officer to ensure that the condition is noted and appropriately added to student management
  systems eg. Xuno, Operoo. Parents will then be communicated to by the First Aid Officer, who will request and
  distribute all appropriate documentation.
- Each child with a diagnosis of Asthma require an Asthma Plan to be developed by a doctor, in consultation with the parents. Copies of these plans will be kept in the child's file, as well as being made available by parents on Operoo and by the First Aid Officer on Xuno. Medication delivery devices eg, Asthma Puffers (e.g Ventolin, Asmol) are to be provided by the parents, along with a Distributing Medication Authority Form.
- The Individual Action Plans for Anaphylaxis and other Medical conditions such as Asthma, Diabetes, Allergies and Epilepsy are located in the First Aid Room, and on SharePoint and Xuno as mentioned in the Emergency Management Plan, Anaphylaxis and First Aid Policies. These online copies on SharePoint and Xuno can be accessed by Staff on Excursions, Camps and on Special Events held offsite
- Medication is stored securely in the First Aid Room as required, and details are documented on Xuno.In the event of an Asthma Attack, the student's Asthma Action Plan should be followed. If there is no Asthma Action Plan is available, the staff member will need to follow the following steps on the attached poster made available by Asthma Australia (Appendix 3).

#### **INCIDENT REPORTING**

If an asthma incident occurs, the attending staff member must complete an Incident Report Form detailing the circumstances and management of the incident. This form should be submitted to the First Aid Officer.

The First Aid Officer will ensure the matter is passed on to the Principal, then file the report in a restricted access part of SharePoint and add the incident to the Incident Report Log (also on SharePoint.)

More information about reporting First Aid treatment- including incidents concerning staff health- can be found in the First Aid Policy.

#### **ASTHMA EMERGENCY KITS**

The Principal, First Aid Officer, or delegated Staff member will ensure that Salbutamol (reliever medication) is available for general use. Asthma Emergency Kits will be made available in each First Aid Bag (including Yard Duty bags) and in the Sick Bay, located in Administration. The Asthma Emergency Kits will contain the following items:

- Blue / Grey Reliever Medication eg. Airomir, Asmol or Ventolin.
- At least 2 x disposable Asthma spacers to assist with effective inhalation of medication.
- A copy of a generic Asthma Action Plan that is to be followed if a personal Asthma Action Plan is unavailable.



A notepad and pen for recording any details.

The Principal will determine the number of Asthma Emergency Kits required. In doing so, the Principal will take into account the following relevant considerations:

- The number of students enrolled at the College
- The accessibility of reliever medication that have been provided by parents of students with an Asthma diagnosis.
- The availability and sufficient supply of Asthma Emergency Kits in specified locations at the College, including:
- a. In the school yard, and at excursions, camps and special events conducted or organised by the school.
- b. Reliever medication has a limited life, usually expiring within 18-24 months, and will need to be replaced at the schools expense, either at the time of use or expiry, whichever is first. No prescriptions are necessary to purchase Salbutamol at any chemist (limits apply).

Minimum Asthma Emergency Kit (AEK) Requirements		
Site Characteristics	Minimum AEK requirements	
Less than 299 employees (and students)	2 Asthma Emergency Kits	
300 - 399 employees (and students)	3 Asthma Emergency Kits	
400 – 499 employees (and students)	4 Asthma Emergency Kits	
500 - 599 employees (and students)	5 Asthma Emergency Kits	
600 - 699 employees (and students)	6 Asthma Emergency Kits	
700 - 999 employees (and students)	7 Asthma Emergency Kits	
>1000 employees (and students)	7 + one first aid officer for every additional 100 employees and students	

#### **COMMUNICATION PLAN**

A Visual Communication Plan will be created by the Principal, First Aid Officer or other delegated Staff member. This Visual Communication Plan is to be displayed in each staff room. The current Visual Communication Plan can be found in the Student Medical Conditions List document.

During a Staff Induction, any new school staff (including Casual Relief Teachers) will be briefed on the Visual Communication Plan, location for Asthma Action Plans, a generic Asthma Action Plan and what to do in an Asthmatic Emergency.

At the start of each school year, all staff with a direct student wellbeing responsibility, will attend a briefing session in regards to Asthma, conducted by an instructor who has completed one of the following courses:

- Management of Asthma Risks and Emergencies in the Workplace 22282VIC
- Emergency Asthma Management 10392NAT.

It is the responsibility of the Principal to ensure that relevant College staff are trained and briefed twice per calendar year.

All visitors to the College including Casual Relief Teachers and Volunteers will sign-in at Administration. During the signin procedure, the basic four steps in an Asthma Action Plan is included, under the Privacy Policy, and will require a signature of agreement upon their understanding of the process.

#### ANNUAL RISK MANAGEMENT CHECKLIST

The Principal, First Aid Officer or delegated Staff member will complete an Annual Risk Management Checklist (Appendix 4) as published by the Department of Education and Training to monitor compliance with their obligations as an Independent, Asthma-Friendly school.



## **RELATED POLICIES, PROCEDURES AND DOCUMENTS**

This policy should be read in conjunction with other relevant documents such as:

- Anaphylaxis Policy
- Camps and Excursions Policy
- Current First Aid Status of Staff
- Emergency Management Plan
- Enrolment Policy
- First Aid Policy
- Incident Report Form
- Incident Report Log
- Risk Assessment Policy
- Student Medical Conditions List
- Yard Supervision Policy

#### **APPENDICES**

- 1. Individual Risk Minimisation Plan
- 2. Asthma Action Plan
- 3. Asthma Australia Poster
- 4. Annual Risk Management Checklist



# **APPENDIX 1**

## Individual Asthma Risk Minimisation Plan

This plan is to be completed by the principal or nominee on the basis of information from the student's medical practitioner (Asthma Action Plan) provided by the parent.

It is the parents' responsibility to provide the school with a copy of the student's Asthma Action Plan containing the emergency procedures plan (signed by the student's medical practitioner) and an up-to-date photo of the student - to be appended to this plan; and to inform the school if their child's medical condition changes.

School			Phone	
Student			1	I
DOB			Year level	
Known Asthma Triggers			I	
Other health conditions				
Medication at school				
EMERGENCY CONTAC	T DETAILS	(PARENT)		
Name			Name	
Relationship			Relationship	
Home phone			Home phone	
Work phone			Work phone	
Mobile			Mobile	
Address			Address	
EMERGENCY CONTAC	T DETAILS	(ALTERNATE)		
Name			Name	
Relationship			Relationship	
Home phone			Home phone	
Work phone			Work phone	
Mobile			Mobile	
Address			Address	
Medical practitioner	Name			
contact	Phone			
Emergency care to be provided at school				
Storage of reliever medication				

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		9	
ENVIRONMENT	I		
	principal or nominee. Please consider ea n for the year, e.g. classroom, canteen, foo		
Name of environm	ent/area:		
Risk identified	Actions required to minimise the risk	Who is responsible?	Completion date?
Name of environm	ent/area:		
Risk identified	Actions required to minimise the risk	Who is responsible?	Completion date?
Name of environm	ent/area:		
Risk identified	Actions required to minimise the risk	Who is responsible?	Completion date?
Name of environm	ent/area:		
Risk identified	Actions required to minimise the risk	Who is responsible?	Completion date?
Name of environm	ent/area:		
Risk identified	Actions required to minimise the risk	Who is responsible?	Completion date?



This Individual Asthma Risk Minimisation Plan will be reviewed on any of the following occurrences (whichever happen earlier):

- annually
- if the student's medical condition, insofar as it relates to asthma, changes
- as soon as practicable after the student has a severe / life-threatening asthma attack at school
- when the student is to participate in an off-site activity, such as camps and excursions, or at special events conducted, organised or attended by the school (eg. class parties, elective subjects, cultural days, fetes, incursions).

I have been consulted in the development of this Individual Asthma Risk Minimisation Plan.

I consent to the risk minimisation strategies proposed.

Signature of parent:	
<b>.</b>	
Date:	
	e students and the relevant school staff who will be involved in al Asthma Risk Minimisation Plan.
Signature of principal (or nominee):	
Date:	



APPENDIX 2 Asthma Action Plan

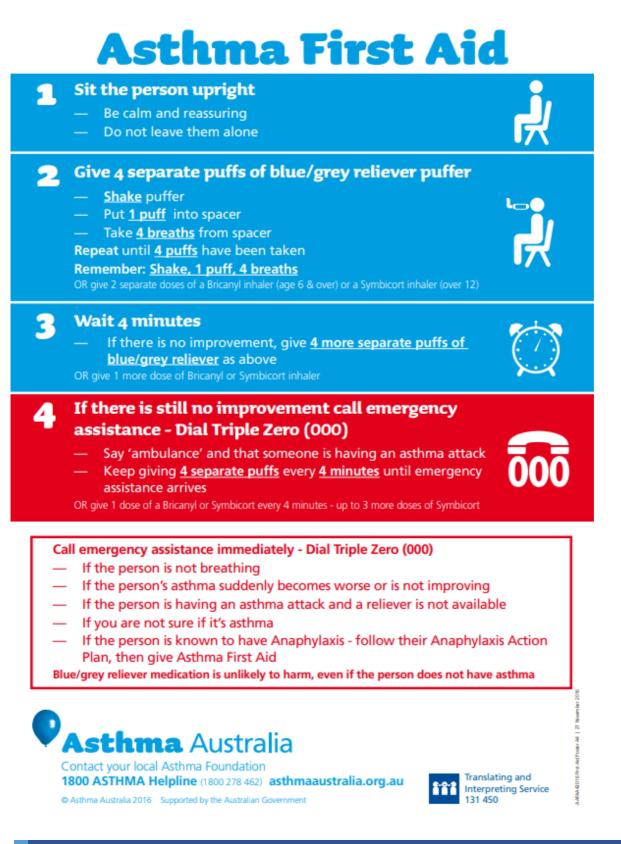
Name: Date of birth:	MILD TO MODERATE SIGNS   Minor difficulty breathing May have a cough May have a wheeze  ACTION FOR MILD TO MOD  Sit the person upright.  Stay with person and be calm a  Give	and reassuring	
Photo	May have a cough     May have a wheeze     ACTION FOR MILD TO MOE     Sit the person upright.     Stay with person and be calm a     Give	and reassuring	
Photo	<ol> <li>Sit the person upright.</li> <li>Stay with person and be calm a</li> <li>Give</li></ol>	and reassuring	
	<ul> <li>Stay with person and be calm a</li> <li>Give</li></ul>		
Child can self administer medication if well enough.	3 Wait 4 minutes.	r between each puff	
Child needs to pre-medicate prior to exercise	If there is no improvement, repeat step 2		
Confirmed triggers:	If there is still no improvement follow the Asthma First Aid Plan for severe / life-threatening asthma attacks below		
Family/emergency contact name(s):	Mild to moderate symptoms do not always present before severe or life-threatening symptoms		
runnig/ energency contact hume(a).	SEVERE SIGNS	LIFE-THREATENING SIGNS	
Work Ph:	<ul> <li>Cannot speak a full sentence</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Unable to speak or 1-2 words</li> </ul>	
Home Ph:	Sitting hunched forward	Collapsed / Exhausted	
Mobile Ph: Plan prepared by Dr or NP: I hereby authorise medications specified on this plan to be administered according to the plan. Signed:	<ul> <li>Tugging in of skin over chest or throat</li> <li>May have a cough or wheeze</li> <li>Obvious difficulty breathing</li> <li>Lethargic</li> <li>Sore tummy (young children)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Gasping for breath</li> <li>May no longer have a cough or wheeze</li> <li>Drowsy/ Confused / Unconscious</li> <li>Skin discolouration (blue lips)</li> </ul>	
Date:	ACTION FOR SEVERE / LIFE-TH	REATENING ASTHMA ATTACK	
Date of next review:	<ol> <li>Sit the person upright. Be calm a Do not leave them alone.</li> <li>Phone ambulance: Triple Zero (Comparing the separate puffs of Airor - Shake puffer before each puff - Put 1 puff into the spacer at a time - Take 4 breaths from the spacer 4 Wait 4 minutes.</li> <li>Keep giving puffs every 4 marrives.</li> <li>Commence CPR at any time if person is unress Blue reliever medication is unlikely to harm, even if the Give adrenaline autoinjector FIRST, then asthma - If someone with known food or insect allergy symptoms, give adrenaline autoinjector FIRST, Anaphylaxis:Y N Trype of autoinjector</li> </ol>	D00). mir, Asmol or Ventolin me between each puff ninutes until emergency assistance ponsive and not breathing normally. e person does not have asthma. NAPHYLAXIS OR ASTHMA ha reliever. uddenly develops severe asthma like then asthma reliever.	

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# **APPENDIX 3**

Asthma Australia Poster





# **APPENDIX 4**

# Annual Asthma Risk Management Checklist

School name:			
Date of review:			
Who completed	Name:		
this checklist?	Position:		
Review given to:	Name		
	Position		
Comments:			
General informati			
	rrent students have been diagnosed with asthma, and have been eliever medication?		
2. How many of t	hese students carry their reliever medication on their person?		
3. Have any stud school?	ents ever had a mild asthma flare-up requiring first aid intervention at	□ Yes	🗆 No
a. If Yes, hov	v many times?		-
4. Have any stud at school?	ents ever had a severe asthma attack requiring medical intervention	🗆 Yes	🗆 No
a. If Yes, hov	v many students?		
b. If Yes, hov	v many times		
5. Has a staff me	mber been required to administer reliever medication to a student?	□ Yes	🗆 No
a. If Yes, hov	v many times?		
	s a government school, was every incident in which a student suffered na attack reported via the Incident Reporting and Information System	□ Yes	□ No
SECTION 1: Train	ling		
	with a duty of care for students undertaken an asthma education	🗆 Yes	🗆 No
	na first aid management for education staff (face to face) within the years, or		
• Asthn years	na first aid management for education staff (online) within the last 3 ?		
organisers, or school and h	ect student wellbeing responsibility such as nurses, first aid and camp staff working with high risk children with a history of severe asthma at high risk teaching areas, such as PE/Sports teachers, Home oking teachers completed asthma management training; either:	□ Yes	□ No
	VIC Course in Management of Asthma Risks and Emergencies in the place (in the last 3 years), or		
• 10392	NAT Course in Emergency Asthma Management (in the last 3 years)		

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0 Deservices a shead and the based and three briefings around the		
9. Does your school conduct in house asthma briefings annually?	🗆 Yes	🗆 No
If no, why not?		
10. Do all school staff participate in the annual briefing?	□ Yes	□ No
If no, why not?		
SECTION 2: Individual Asthma Risk Minimisation Plan		
11. Does every student who has been diagnosed with asthma and prescribed reliever	□ Yes	□ No
medication have an Individual Asthma Risk Minimisation Plan and Asthma Plan		
completed and signed by a prescribed medical practitioner?		
12. Are all individual Asthma Risk Minimisation Plan reviewed regularly (at least	□ Yes	□ No
annually)?		
13. Do the Individual Asthma Risk Minimisation Plans set out strategies to minimise the risk of exposure to triggers for the following in-school and out of class settings?		
a. During classroom activities, including elective classes	□ Yes	🗆 No
b. In canteens or during lunch or snack times	🗆 Yes	🗆 No
c. Before and after school, in the school yard and during breaks	□ Yes	🗆 No
d. For special events, such as sports days, class parties and extra-curricular	□ Yes	□ No
activities		
e. For excursions and camps	□ Yes	□ No
f. Other		
14. Do all students who carry an reliever medication on their person have a copy of their	🗆 Yes	🗆 No
Asthma Action Plan kept at the school (provided by the parent)?		
a. Where are the Asthma Action Plans kept?		
15. Does the Asthma Action Plan include a recent photo of the student?	□ Yes	□ No
16. Have the Individual Asthma Risk Minimisation Plan been reviewed prior to any off	🗆 Yes	🗆 No
site activities (such as sport, camps or special events), and where appropriate reviewed in consultation with the student's parent/s?		
	<u> </u>	
SECTION 3: Storage and accessibility of reliever medication		
17. Where are the student(s) reliever medication stored?		
18. Do all school staff know where the school's Asthma Emergency Kits for general use	□ Yes	🗆 No
are stored?		
19. Is the storage safe?	□ Yes	🗆 No
20. Is the storage unlocked and accessible to school staff at all times?	□ Yes	🗆 No
Comments:		
	1	



21. Are the Asthma Emergency Kits easy to find?	🗆 Yes	🗆 No
Comments:		
22. Is a copy of student's individual Asthma Action Plan kept together with the student's	□ Yes	□ No
reliever medication?		
23. Is the student's reliever medication and the Asthma Action Plans clearly labelled	□ Yes	🗆 No
with the student's names?		
24. Has someone been designated to check the reliever medication expiry dates on a	□ Yes	□ No
regular basis?		
Who?		
25. Is there reliever medication which is currently in the possession of the school and	🗆 Yes	🗆 No
which has expired?		
26. Is the school registered as an Asthma Friendly school?	🗆 Yes	🗆 No
27. Do all school staff know where the reliever medication, the Asthma Action Plans and	🗆 Yes	🗆 No
the School Asthma Management Plans are stored?		
28. Has the school purchased Asthma Emergency Kits for general use?	🗆 Yes	🗆 No
29. Where are these kits located?		
Do staff know where they are located?	□ Yes	🗆 No
30. Is the Asthma Emergency Kit clearly labelled as such?	□ Yes	□ No
31. Is there a register for signing reliever medication in and out when taken for		
excursions, camps etc?		
SECTION 4: Prevention strategies		
32. Have you done a risk assessment to identify potential accidental exposure to triggers for all students who have been diagnosed with asthma?	□ Yes	🗆 No
33. Have you implemented any of the prevention strategies in the Asthma Guidelines?	□ Yes	□ No
If not record why not?		
24. Are there always sufficient asked staff morehans on your duity who have surrout		
34. Are there always sufficient school staff members on yard duty who have current Asthma Training?	□ Yes	🗆 No
SECTION 5: School management and emergency response		
35. Does the school have procedures for emergency responses to asthma attacks? Are they clearly documented and communicated to all staff?	🗆 Yes	🗆 No
36. Do school staff know when their training needs to be renewed?		
37. Have you developed Emergency Response Procedures for when a severe asthma attack occurs?	🗆 Yes	🗆 No
a. In the class room?	□ Yes	□ No
b. In the school yard?	□ Yes	□ No
c. In all school buildings and sites, including gymnasiums and halls?		
d. At school camps and excursions?		
e. On special event days (such as sports days) conducted, organised or attended by the school?	□ Yes	🗆 No



38. Does your plan include who will call the ambulance?	□ Yes	🗆 No
39. Is there a designated person who will be sent to collect the student's reliever medication and individual Asthma Action Plan?	□ Yes	🗆 No
40. Have you checked how long it will take to get to the reliever medication and the individual Asthma Action Plan to a student from various areas of the school including:	□ Yes	🗆 No
a. The class room?	🗆 Yes	🗆 No
b. The school yard?	□ Yes	🗆 No
c. The sports field?	□ Yes	🗆 No
41. On excursions or other out of school events is there a plan for who is responsible for ensuring the reliever medication(s) and Individual Asthma Action Plans and the Asthma Emergency Kits use are correctly stored and available for use?	□ Yes	□ No
42. Who will make these arrangements during excursions?		
43. Who will make these arrangements during camps?		
44. Who will make these arrangements during sporting activities?		
45. Is there a process for post incident support in place?	🗆 Yes	🗆 No
46. Have all school staff who conduct classes that students with asthma attend, and any other staff identified by the principal, been briefed on:		
a. The school's Asthma Management Policy?	□ Yes	🗆 No
b. The causes, symptoms and treatment of asthma?	□ Yes	🗆 No
c. The identities of students diagnosed with asthma, and who are prescribed reliever medication, including where their medication is located?	□ Yes	🗆 No
d. How to use a puffer and spacer?	🗆 Yes	🗆 No
e. The school's general first aid and emergency response procedures for all in- school and out-of-school environments?	□ Yes	□ No
f. Where the Asthma Emergency Kits for general use are kept?	□ Yes	🗆 No
g. Where the reliever medication for individual students are located including if they carry it on their person?	□ Yes	□ No
SECTION 6: Communication Plan		
47. Is there a Communication Plan in place to provide information about asthma and		
the school's policies?		
a. To school staff?	□ Yes	🗆 No
b. To students?	□ Yes	🗆 No
c. To parents?	□ Yes	🗆 No
d. To volunteers?	□ Yes	□ No
e. To casual relief staff?	□ Yes	□ No
48. Is there a process for distributing this information to the relevant school staff?	□ Yes	🗆 No
a. What is it?		



49. How is this information kept up to date?		
50. Are there strategies in place to increase awareness about asthma among students for all in-school and out-of-school environments?	□ Yes	🗆 No
51. What are they?		