

Asthma Policy

Purpose

Bateau Bay OOSH is committed to providing a safe, inclusive, and supportive environment for all children, including those diagnosed with asthma. We recognise that asthma is a serious medical condition that can affect children in our care at any time. This policy ensures that our Service meets its legal and ethical obligations under the Education and Care Services National Law and Regulations, the National Quality Standard, and current ACECQA guidance. Our approach reflects the My Time Our Place Framework by supporting children's health and wellbeing, promoting children's agency in managing their condition, and working in respectful partnerships with families and health professionals.

Scope

This policy applies to all children, families, educators, staff, management, and visitors at Bateau Bay OOSH. It ensures that children with asthma are cared for in a manner that minimises risk and supports their full participation in the program.

Management Responsibilities

The Approved Provider and Nominated Supervisor will ensure that asthma management is embedded in the daily practices of the Service. They will maintain up-to-date policies and procedures, ensure staff are trained in asthma awareness and first aid, and provide resources such as asthma action plans and reliever medications in easily accessible, well-signposted locations. They will also ensure compliance with Regulation 90 (medical conditions policy), Regulation 91 (medical conditions procedures), and Regulation 136 (first aid qualifications).

Educator Responsibilities

Educators will follow each child's asthma action plan as provided by their family and medical practitioner. They will monitor children for symptoms, administer reliever medication when required, and seek emergency assistance if necessary. Educators will provide reassurance and comfort to children during an asthma episode, remain calm, and supervise other children to maintain safety. Educators will also communicate promptly with families following any incident and document the event in accordance with National Regulations.

Family Responsibilities

Families are responsible for providing a current asthma action plan completed and signed by a medical practitioner. They must supply reliever medication, such as a blue reliever puffer and spacer, that is clearly labelled with their child's name. Families are also expected to communicate openly with educators about their child's asthma triggers, symptoms, and management strategies, and update the Service immediately if there are changes to their child's condition or medication.

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Risk Minimisation

The Service will implement strategies to reduce known asthma triggers where possible, including ensuring a smoke-free environment, monitoring air quality, managing allergens, and supporting children to avoid physical activities that may cause overexertion without prior planning. Educators will ensure that reliever medication is always within reach and that children feel comfortable seeking help when they experience symptoms.

Communication and Training

All educators will complete asthma awareness and asthma first aid training as required under National Regulations. Information about asthma management will be shared with all staff, families, and where appropriate, with children to build understanding and support. The Service will foster a culture of openness, where children's health needs are respected and where families feel confident that their child's safety is a priority.

Child Safe Standards and Paramountcy Principle

The Service is committed to upholding the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations and embedding a strong child safe culture across all practices. In accordance with the Paramountcy Principle, the safety, wellbeing and best interests of the child are the primary and overriding consideration in all decisions, actions and practices undertaken by the Service, including the management of asthma.

This means that at all times, the prevention, identification and response to asthma symptoms must prioritise the immediate health and safety of the child above all other considerations. Educators, staff and management are required to exercise professional judgement and take all reasonable precautions to protect children from harm and hazards, ensuring that known asthma triggers are minimised, each child's asthma action plan is followed, and reliever medication is readily accessible and administered promptly when required.

The Service will ensure that all responses to asthma symptoms are timely, calm and effective, with educators remaining attentive to early warning signs and providing reassurance and support to the child. Children will be cared for in a way that reduces distress, maintains their dignity, and ensures they feel safe, supported and confident in seeking assistance.

All practices relating to asthma management must prioritise the protection of children from harm, support effective supervision and risk minimisation, and uphold each child's right to safety, wellbeing and appropriate care at all times.



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Review

Date:	Changes:	Reviewed by:
18/09/25	Policy Created	Charmayne Nathan
23/04/2026	Child Safe Standards & Paramountcy Principle was implemented in align with new laws and regulations	Charmayne Nathan