



Policy Manual –Students - Miscellaneous

S.M.12 - Asthma

The mission of Catholic Education in Hamilton-Wentworth, in union with our Bishop, is to enable all learners to realize the fullness of humanity of which Our Lord Jesus Christ is the mode

POLICY STATEMENT

Asthma is a serious, chronic inflammatory condition of the airways in the lungs characterized by recurrent attacks or episodes of difficult or laboured breathing and/or coughing.

Common Asthma triggers include animals, cleaning products, dust (chalk dust, dusty gym mats), exercise, extremes of temperature (cold or hot), house dust mites, infections (bronchitis colds), moulds, perfume, pests (cockroaches, mice, rats), pollen (flowers, grass, trees, weeds), poor air quality, smoke and strong smells (including markers, paint).

In accordance with *Ryan's Law (Ensuring Asthma Friendly Schools) 2015*, it is the policy of the Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board that each school within the Board's jurisdiction shall have an Asthma Management Plan and each student who has been identified as being at risk of having an asthmatic reaction shall have an Individual Asthma Plan of Care.

Purpose

While schools cannot guarantee an environment free of agents that can trigger Asthma, the Hamilton- Wentworth Catholic District School Board shall make every reasonable effort to:

- reduce the risk of exposure to Asthma causative agents in classrooms and common school areas;
- ensure that school board personnel are aware of which students within the school population have been identified as being at risk of having an asthmatic reaction; and,
- outline the procedures necessary to intervene effectively in the event of an asthmatic emergency.

In addressing the needs of students who are at risk of having an asthmatic reaction, the Board has two primary objectives:

- to support students, to fully access school in a safe, accepting and healthy learning environment which enhances their mental, physical and spiritual well-being; and,
- to empower students, as confident and capable learners, to reach their full potential for self management of their medical condition, according to their Individual Asthma Plan of Care.

Responsibility

School Principals and Superintendent of Student Well-Being

Regulations

- Education Act, 1990
 - Section 264 - Duties of Teacher
 - Section 265 - Duties of Principal
- Regulation 298 – Operations of Schools – General
 - Section 11 - Duties of Principals
 - Section 20 - Duties of Teachers
- Regulation Made Under the Teaching Profession Act
 - Section 14(f)
- Good Samaritan Act, 2001
- Ryan’s Law - (Ensuring Asthma Friendly Schools), 2015
- Ministry of Education Policy Program Memorandum No.161 – Supporting Children and Students with Prevalent Medical Conditions (Anaphylaxis, Asthma, Diabetes, and/or Epilepsy) in Schools, September 2018.

Related Policies

S.M.11 Allergic Reaction (Anaphylaxis Awareness)

S.M.18 Epilepsy

S.M.19 Diabetes

S.M. 20 Administration of Medication

Related Board Committee: Committee of the Whole

Policy Review Date:

BM Original Policy Approved 03 November 2015

Revisions: 19 June 2018, 01 February 2022

To be reviewed every three years