

Asthma Friendly Childcare Services Program

Asthma affects 1 in 9 children and is a common health issue facing all providers who care for children. In fact asthma is a common reason for hospital admissions in children under 12 and a leading cause of school absenteeism.

Given the high occurrence of asthma and asthma attacks in childcare services such as Child Care Centres, OSHC, Occasional Care and Family Day Care, Asthma Foundation SA has developed a program targeting childcare services.

Asthma Friendly Childcare Services Program

The Asthma Friendly Childcare Services Program aims to assist childcare services to provide:

- A safer and more supportive environment for children with asthma
- Staff with the skills necessary to prevent or reduce attacks and exacerbations of asthma, and effectively manage an asthma emergency

To be recognised as an Asthma Friendly Childcare Service, each facility must address and satisfy a set of criteria (below) that guide childcare services to establish and maintain asthma friendly processes.

An Asthma Friendly Childcare Service will:

- Provide asthma education for staff, including new staff
- Ensure Asthma Emergency Kits are accessible
- Display asthma first aid information and make asthma management information available to parents/carers
- Develop and routinely review asthma management policies and procedures

Childcare Services that become Asthma Friendly receive:

- A FREE Asthma Emergency Kit and 25% discount on subsequent kits
- An Asthma Friendly window sticker
- Free Asthma Information and Resources including posters, magnets and Asthma Control Packs for parents
- Quarterly Asthma Foundation Newsletters and publications

- Access to Asthma Foundation SA best practice asthma management guidelines
- Hotlink to Asthma foundation professional health educators for emergency information - 1800 645 130
- 10% discount on all other Asthma and Respiratory products through the Asthma Foundation SA shop

Once a Childcare Service becomes Asthma Friendly their status remains valid for a 2 year period after which time they are encouraged to renew for a further two years.

Asthma First Aid

Training is provided at a location of your choice and takes an hour to complete. The training is provided by an experienced educator and covers the following topics:

- A definition of asthma
- Signs and symptoms of asthma
- Common asthma triggers
- Identifying asthma symptoms in children
- Assessing the severity of an asthma attack
- Asthma first aid
- Use of an Asthma Emergency Kit
- Information on the Asthma Friendly Childcare Services Program

The Asthma First Aid protocol taught by the Foundation is recognised by the National Asthma Council, Asthma Australia, and The Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand.

Cost

Training is provided at \$20 per person (minimum number of attendees is 5) or \$150 per site.

You are welcome to invite participants from other Childcare services to join in on your session. However, the total number for the session should not exceed 20.

Other Services who join in on your session will automatically be registered in the Program and receive a certificate of attendance.

Contact

For more information contact Kelly at Asthma Foundation SA:

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