5.5 Asthma Policy

Rationale
To ensure that children with asthma are safe while at school and that the staff are confident in their ability to deal with acute asthma episodes.

Purposes
That all staff have knowledge of the following:
1. Asthma triggers
2. Medications and how they work
3. Signs and symptoms of worsening asthma
4. When and how to initiate appropriate treatment
5. How to access emergency help

Guidelines
1. That all children with asthma are identified and documented

2. That the teachers and the office manager have knowledge of management of each child with asthma in his/her class and the location of each child’s bronchodilator (reliever) inhaler.

3. That a written action plan for each child with asthma be written by the caregiver.

4. That the school first aid kits have emergency bronchodilator (reliever) aerosols with a spacer device. All staff have knowledge of when and how to use this medication.

5. Each teacher discuss with the child the storage of their medication while at school.

6. In event of an asthma attack which causes staff concern, the school has the right to seek medical advice.

7. The school staff will receive education on acute asthma management by the Public Health Nurse annually or biannually.

Conclusion
By following the above policy we hope that any potential problems will be alleviated.

Signed: ________________ BOT Chairperson       Date: ____________

Review Date: 2014