Asthma Management Framework

1. Identifying Students with Asthma
- Identify and document all students with asthma.
- Update medical documentation annually and encourage whānau to alert the school whenever a child is newly diagnosed or if their asthma severity changes.
- Obtain written permission from parents/caregivers to administer asthma medication (if required). Obtain a copy of the Asthma Action Plan for each child with asthma.

2. Medication Management
- Ensure that students, in consultation with their classroom teacher, have easy access to asthma medication in the classroom and during extracurricular activities.
- Provide and update Asthma Emergency Kits.
- Ensure that school staff are educated on how and when to use the emergency bronchodilator (inhaler) with a spacer device located in the school’s Asthma Emergency Kit.

3. Staff Training
- Ensure that all school staff members are educated in acute asthma management by an asthma educator or nurse annually or bi-annually.

4. Student Education
- Promote asthma awareness and knowledge in all students through integrated curriculum learning or homework activities e.g., The Healthy Breathing Booklet.

5. Community Engagement and Education
- Communicate asthma policies and procedures with parents & whānau.
- Offer community-based asthma education.
- Encourage effective engagement between our school and whānau.

6. Linkages to Healthcare Providers
- Promote partnership between relevant healthcare providers (e.g., nurses, clinicians).
- Ensure that all students with asthma have a written Asthma Plan signed by their doctor.

7. School Environment
- Recognise potential asthma triggers within the indoor and outdoor school environment and actively seek to reduce or eliminate these allergens and irritants known to exacerbate asthma symptoms.

8. Monitoring our Students
- Monitor the attendance and academic performance of students with asthma.
- Ensure that students with asthma are able to fully participate in all aspects of school life.

9. Health and Safety
- Develop an asthma management policy.
- Develop feedback strategies to implement following the event of an asthma emergency.

For more detailed information, refer to A Toolkit for Managing Asthma in Schools book.