

Dear Parents/ Guardians:

Subject:

- Amended State Law regarding student self administration of metered dose asthma reliever inhalers at school
- Request for updated health information related to your child's Asthma

Each year I update health information and my records indicate that your child has Asthma or Reactive Airway disease. In the event your child suffers an Asthma attack or needs help at school, you can help me help your child by filling out your part of the attached Asthma Action Plan and by having your child's doctor fill out and sign his/her part of the form.

Although I may not be at your child's school every day, I am assigned to your child's school. I will develop an Asthma Plan for your child to insure that your child's school experience is as safe and healthy as possible.

Please complete the asthma form and return it to school by _____, (10 school days) so I can plan for your child's care and share the plan with the school staff who work with your child.

Very Important Changes Effective this Year:

- According to amended State Law TCA 49-5-415, a student is allowed to carry and self administer their metered dose asthma reliever inhaler, however, the State Law requires your doctor's signature, indicating that he/she agrees with the school plan and that he/she has properly trained your child to use (self administer) their asthma reliever inhaler.
- The completed and signed form must be returned to school before your child may carry and self administer his/her metered dose Asthma reliever inhaler.
- The form is valid for the current school year.
- Each year you will be asked to complete a new form and have it signed by your child's doctor.
- Shelby County Schools Medication Policy has not changed and does allow students to carry and self administer their metered dose asthma reliever inhaler provided (1) the appropriate school system paperwork and (2) the completed and signed parent and doctor portion of the Asthma Action Plan are on file at school.
- A copy of the state law, the Asthma Action Plan and school system forms are available in the school office.

It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to provide necessary medicine and treatment supplies and equipment needed at school. If your child requires more than an inhaler (puffer) to manage his/her Asthma contact me as soon as possible.

Please notify me or the school office personnel as soon as possible of any change in your child's health status, medication or treatment plan. It is also very important to inform the school of any change in the names and phone numbers of emergency contact persons your provide. Having good emergency contact information is extremely important if your child is having a problem at school and you cannot be reached.

Thank You in advance for your support and cooperation. If you have any questions or need more information please feel free to contact me at _____.

School Nurse

RN _____
Date _____

Sample Parent Letter for Asthma Information

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Did you know that asthma is the number one reason for absenteeism in schools? More children miss school from asthma related illnesses than any other illness. It is also one of the leading causes of visits to the emergency rooms in our area.

Our records indicate that your child has asthma or reactive airway disease. We need to have updated health information in case your child needs help at school. This is very important because we do not have a nurse in each school every day and we need to plan for a safe and healthy school experience.

Please complete the asthma form and return it to school within 10 school days and before _____, so we can plan for your child's care and share the plan with the school staff who work with your child during the school day.

It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to provide necessary medicine and treatment equipment needed at school. If your child requires more than an inhaler (puffer) to manage his/her asthma contact the school nurse as soon as possible.

Please notify the school and/or the school nurse immediately of any changes in phone numbers, contact persons, your child's health, medications or treatments.

Students who Carry Inhalers

Students using an inhaler are allowed to carry their inhaler with the appropriate paperwork completed and filed in the school. Beginning with the 2004-2005 school year, it is required by TCA 49-5-415, Section 1, (c), (1), (B) (that the parent/guardian) Provides a written statement from the prescribing health care practitioner that the student suffers from asthma and has been instructed in self-administration of the prescribed metered dosage asthma-reliever inhaler....

Each student with an inhaler must have 1) statement from the medical provider ,2) the Parents Authorization for Administering Medicine at School and 3) sign and return to school the following statement.

Your child may not be allowed to carry his/her inhaler until these three items are on file at the school.

As the parent or guardian of _____, I acknowledge that the school shall incur no liability and I indemnify and hold harmless the school and its employees against any claims relating to the possession or self-administration of the inhaler

Parent/guardian signature

Date