



Asthma Policy

This policy was reviewed in March 2015. It was agreed by the Governing body in April 2015 and will be reviewed in the Summer Term 2016

The Principles of our school Asthma Policy

- The School recognises that asthma is an important condition affecting many school children and welcomes all pupils with asthma
- Ensures that children with asthma participate fully in all aspects of school life including PE
- Recognises that immediate access to reliever inhalers is vital
- Keeps records of children with asthma and the medication they take
- Ensures the school environment is favourable to children with asthma
- Ensures all staff who come into contact with children with asthma know what to do in the event of an asthma attack
- Will work in partnership with all interested parties including all school staff, parents, governors, doctors and nurses, and children to ensure the policy is implemented and maintained successfully

1. This school recognises that asthma is an important condition affecting many school children and positively welcomes all pupils with asthma.

2. This school encourages children with asthma to achieve their potential in all aspects of school life by having a clear policy that is understood by school staff and pupils. Supply teachers and new staff are also made aware of the policy.

Medication

Immediate access to reliever is vital. Children's reliever inhalers are kept in classroom providing easy access as required. Individual reliever inhalers are taken to all off site activities. Parents are asked to ensure that the school is provided with a labelled reliever inhaler.

All inhalers must be labelled by the pharmacy. School staff are not required to administer medication to children except in an emergency however many of our staff are happy to do this on a voluntary basis. All school staff will let children take their own medication when they need to.

Record Keeping

At the beginning of each school year, or when a child joins the school, parents are asked to disclose any medical conditions such as asthma. A medical administration form will be filled in according to the Medical policy. Children are encouraged to self-administer their inhaler. Staff have no legal obligation to administer medicines unless written into their contract. Staff may volunteer to assist in the administration of medicines but must be given appropriate training and guidance.

Off site visits

Staff will remind children to bring their inhaler with them on any off site visits.

KS1 and EYFS A nominated member of staff will carry the inhaler for the child and will stay with the child at all times on off site visits.

During residential visits the first aid kit will include a spare reliever inhaler.

PE

Taking part in sports is an essential part of school life. Teachers are aware of which children have asthma. Children with asthma are encouraged to participate fully in PE. Teachers will remind children with asthma to take their inhaler with them for the PE lesson. Children may use their inhaler during a lesson as they require.

KS1 and EYFS A nominated member of staff will carry the inhaler and stay with the class.

The School Environment

The school does all that it can to ensure the school environment is favourable to children with asthma. The school does not keep furry and feathery pets and subscribes to the local authority policy of no smoking including e-cigarettes on school premises. As far as possible the school does not use chemicals in science and art lessons that are potential triggers for children with asthma.

When a Child is falling behind in lessons

If a child is missing a lot of time from school because of asthma or is tired in class because of disturbed sleep and falling behind in class, the class teacher will initially talk to the parents. If appropriate the teacher will then talk to the school nurse and special educational needs coordinator about the situation. The school recognises that it is possible for children with asthma to have special education needs because of asthma.

Asthma Attacks

All staff who come into contact with children with asthma know what to do in the event of an asthma attack. The school follows the following procedure, which is clearly displayed in all classrooms.

1. Ensure that the reliever inhaler is taken immediately.
2. Stay calm and reassure the child.
3. Help the child to breathe by;
 - Loosening tight clothing
 - Sit child up leaning forward with arms resting on a table.
4. Call for help as required

After the attack

Minor attacks should not interrupt a child's involvement in school. When they feel better they can return to school activities.

The attack should be recorded and parents informed.

Emergency procedure

Parents should be informed quickly. The child's doctor needs to be called if;

- The reliever has no effect after five to ten minutes
- The child is either distressed or unable to talk
- The child is getting exhausted
- You have any doubts at all about the child's condition
- If the parents/ carers or Doctor are unavailable call an ambulance
- If for any reason the child stops breathing, an ambulance should be called immediately

A child should always be taken to hospital in an ambulance. Normally school staff would not take children in their car to the hospital as the child's condition may deteriorate. However, in case of emergency and with the direction of the emergency services, agreement with the SLT and parent/carers staff may volunteer to transport a child to the nearest accident and emergency department accompanied by another member of staff.

Date the Policy was approved by Governors: -

Date for review:

Contact: