

Asthma Policy 2016

Statement of intent

This school welcomes all pupils with asthma, recognising that asthma is a condition affecting many school children. We will encourage and help children with asthma to participate fully in all aspects of school life. There is nothing to stop children with asthma achieving their full potential

Asthma Attacks

If a pupil with asthma becomes breathless and wheezy or coughs continually school staff will take the following action:

1. Stay calm and reassure the child
2. Let the pupil sit down in the most comfortable position for them; do not make them lie down. They may want to hold your hand but do not put your arm around them as it is restrictive. Loosen tight clothing and offer a drink of water.
3. Keep a crowd away from them
4. Let the pupil use their reliever inhaler as appropriate
5. If the symptoms cease the pupil can go back to class after a short interval
6. If the symptoms have improved but not completely disappeared, continue to use inhaler as directed on asthma card.

IF THE RELIEVER INHALER HAS NO EFFECT (THE CHILD IS UNABLE TO TALK IS DISTRESSED OR EXHAUSTED) THEN STAFF WILL TAKE THE FOLLOWING ACTION:

1. Contact an ambulance URGENTLY
2. Contact the parents/carer
3. Reliever medication may be given continually one puff at a time whilst waiting for the ambulance via a spacer if one is available.

STORAGE AND ADMINISTRATION OF INHALERS AND OTHER MEDICATION.

“Children with asthma must have immediate access to their reliever inhalers when they need them.”

**“Supporting pupils with medical needs”
DfEE & Department of Health 1996**

Storage and Monitoring

Inhalers are stored in the classroom in a box and are clearly marked with the child's name. Because of the coordination needed to use a spray inhaler, children under 12 years may find it difficult to use without a spacer. Parents will be asked to provide a spacer if needed.

The use and dosage of inhaler medication is discussed with parents/carers when inhalers are first brought to school. Any concerns arising from monitoring will be brought to the attention of parents/carers by the Classteacher.

Parents are responsible for ensuring that medication is replaced when it is out of date.

Inhalers will be returned to parents at the end of each school year.

PE

Physical activity is encouraged for all children. If a child suffers from exercise induced asthma they may need to use their reliever inhaler/initial inhaler before they exercise. A member of staff will take reliever inhalers out to the field with, if applicable, a spacer device for emergency treatment (the school will follow advice from parents/carers). Children should be encouraged to warm up.

SCHOOL OUTINGS

In the event of a school visit or trip a member of staff will take the inhalers for children to use if required. Risk assessments of school visits include reference to inhaler medication.

EDUCATION OF THE WHOLE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

All school staff, including teaching and non-teaching, are kept up to date on asthma management. A list of children with asthma is displayed in class for supply teachers and temporary staff and the school asthma policy is available in school and on the school website.

THE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT

We do all we can to ensure the school environment is favourable to children with asthma. We do not keep furry or feathery pets and we have a no smoking policy. As far as possible we do not use resources that are potential triggers for children with asthma.

USE OF EMERGENCY INHALER.

The school is in the process of obtaining emergency inhalers for use by children who do not have an inhaler in school or the inhaler is out of date. Permission will be sought from parents of children on the asthma register for use of the emergency inhaler.

This policy has been written in consultation with Asthma UK, School Staff, Parents and the Governing Body.

Reviewed: Spring 2017

Next review Spring 2019