



# Asthma Policy

## Introduction

This policy has been written as a quick reference guide for use in conjunction with:

- Medication Guidance For Schools – L.A. March 2012
- Managing Medicines in Schools and Early Years Settings, DfES 2005 (revised November 2007). Currently under revision advised to check DfE website.

## Policy Statement

This school:

- Welcomes pupils with asthma and recognises their needs
- Works towards ensuring the school environment is favourable to pupils with Asthma
- Expects and encourages parents/carers to give appropriate information to the school regarding their child's asthma and to provide a prescribed reliever (blue) inhaler and spacer device (if required)
- Recognises that pupils need to have immediate access to their reliever inhaler
- Will encourage and help children who have asthma to participate fully in all aspects of school life
- Will access regular Asthma Awareness training for all staff

## 1. On Admission To School

- 1.1 All parents/carers will be asked to complete an admission form giving full details of their child's asthma, regular medication, emergency contact numbers, family G.P. and any relevant hospital details.
- 1.2 Every child with an asthma diagnosis must have a reliever inhaler (blue) available in school and a spacer device if this is normally used.

## 2. Safety And Storage Of Asthma Inhalers

- 2.1 All inhaler devices need to be clearly labelled with the child's name.
- 2.2 **Key Stage 1**
  - Inhalers will be kept in the classroom under the supervision of the class teacher
  - Reliever Inhalers (blue) should be easily accessible to the child

## **Key Stage 2**

- Pupils at this age are encouraged to become self-managing by the end of Year 6 by carrying their own reliever inhaler and using it when needed
  - If there are any concerns about the child's inhaler technique they should be referred to the school nurse
  - A spare reliever (blue) inhaler clearly labelled with the child's name needs to be kept centrally in school
- 2.3 Most children will not need to use their reliever (blue) inhaler on a daily basis, therefore, if the child has experienced symptoms and has needed to use their inhaler, parents/carers will be informed.
- 2.4 Parents/carers will always be informed if their child has an asthma attack.
- 2.5 If pupils leave the premises for any activity they must have their reliever (blue) inhalers with them.
- 2.6 Parents/carers need to check all reliever inhalers/spacer devices termly or regularly, confirming that the inhalers are in date and are full of medication.
- 2.7 Inhalers should not be stored where there is excessive heat or cold.

## **3. Exercise And Activity**

- 3.1 Pupils with asthma are encouraged to participate in P.E lessons.
- 3.2 Some pupils with asthma may need to use their reliever inhaler before exercising.
- 3.3 Reliever inhalers must be readily available at all times, including all off site activities.

## **4. Asthma Attack**

- 4.1 It is essential that all staff know how to manage a child experiencing an asthma attack.
- 4.2 In the event of an asthma attack school staff should follow the procedure outlined in the "Asthma Attack Flowchart" (see appendix 1). This flowchart should be visibly displayed in all key areas e.g:
- staff room
  - first aid areas
  - P.E. hall.

## **5. Training**

All staff should access asthma awareness training and receive regular updates so that they recognise and know how to manage a child having an asthma attack, when and how to call an ambulance and what to do whilst waiting for the ambulance to arrive.

# Schools Asthma Attack Flow Chart

