



KINGSWAY COMMUNITY TRUST

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ASTHMA POLICY

November 2019

Asthma Policy

Date: November 2019

Review date: Autumn 2025

The School:

- Recognises that asthma is a serious condition affecting many school children
- 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 that other children understand asthma
- Ensures all staff who come into contact with children with asthma know what to do in the
- Event of an asthma attack – all staff have regular training
- Will work in partnership with all interested parties including all school staff, parents, governors, doctors and nurses, and children to ensure that policy is implemented and maintained successfully.

School Asthma Policy

This policy has been written with advice from the DfE, The Department of Health, Asthma UK, parents, the governing body and pupils.

This school encourages children with asthma to achieve their potential in all aspects of school 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.

Under the Equality Act 2010 we have a duty not to discriminate against people on the basis of their age, disability, gender, gender identity, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief and sexual orientation.

This policy has been equality impact assessed and we believe that it is in line with the Equality Act 2010 as it is fair, it does not prioritise or disadvantage any pupil and it helps to promote equality at this school.

The Governing Body will ensure, that in the cycle of policy reviews, that policies and practices are scrutinised to identify the effects they have on individuals or groups of people in relation to equality.

Training

All staff who come into contact with children with asthma are provided with training on asthma from the school nurse who has had asthma training.

Medication

Children are encouraged to take responsibility for their reliever inhaler as soon as the parent, doctor or nurse and class teacher agree they are mature enough. It is the parents' responsibility to ensure that the school is provided with labelled inhalers. **All classes have an asthma box, stored in a clearly marked area. Contained in here, every child with asthma will have a clearly labelled zipped wallet containing their spacer, inhaler, medical pen portrait detailing their medical needs and the prescription for the inhaler.** Asthma boxes are checked termly and Class Teachers are asked to wash the spacers once every half term.

All staff and children in the class, including dinner staff, will know its location which will also be flagged up clearly in the room for supply teachers. Inhalers will be taken by teachers when going off site. School staff are

not required to administer medication to children except in an emergency, however many of our staff are happy to do this. All school staff will let children take their own medication when they need to. In extreme emergency if a child is having an attack and does not have an inhaler in school, another child's may be used as well as phoning 999.

From Asthma UK.org;

“In an emergency situation when a pupil is having a severe asthma attack, using another child's reliever inhaler is preferable to being unable to give any medicines.”

Record keeping

When a child starts at the school, medical conditions, if any, including Asthma are noted. These conditions are noted on a medical register which is held in the school office. Medical pen portraits are updated twice a year at Parents' Evening.

Procedure for Parents if their child is diagnosed with asthma

If a parent informs the office that a child has been diagnosed with asthma, the following steps should be taken.

- Office staff to give the parent an asthma health plan form to complete
- Parent to complete the above form and return to the office along with an inhaler and a spacer for their child
- Office staff will then add the details to the child's record on SIMs
- The asthma health plan form, inhaler and spacer will be put in a zip wallet, labelled with the child's name and class and given to the class teacher
- The class teacher will add a photo of the child to the zip wallet and will store it in the classroom.
- A copy of the asthma health plan form will be filed in the school office

New Nursery/Reception Pupils

For children starting nursery or in reception as a new starter, the asthma health plan form is to be taken on the home visit.

On the child's start date, the parent should bring in the completed form, along with the inhaler and spacer to the office and the rest of the procedures followed as detailed above.

Emergency Evacuation

In the event of a fire drill or any evacuation procedure teachers MUST take the box of inhalers out with them from their classrooms.

Physical Activities (including lunchtimes)

Taking part in sports is an essential part of school life. Teachers are aware of which children have asthma from the medical register. Children with asthma are encouraged to participate fully in PE. If needed when on site a child or TA may fetch the box from the classroom. Children with severe asthma must take their inhaler out with them. For children travelling to swimming lessons, the teacher will take their classes Asthma medication with them.

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 or feathery pets and has a non-smoking policy. As far as possible the school does not use chemicals that are potential triggers for children with asthma.

Trips

The class asthma box must be taken on all school trips.

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 teacher will initially talk to the parents. If appropriate, the teacher will then talk to the school nurse.

Asthma attacks

The school follows the following procedure:-

1. Ensure that the reliever inhaler is used immediately
2. Stay calm and reassure the child
3. Help the child to breathe by ensuring tight clothing is loosened

Minor attacks should not interrupt a child's involvement in school. When they feel better they can return to school activities. The child's parents must be told about the attack at the end of the school day.

Emergency Procedure

Call an ambulance and parent urgently from the school office 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
- If no inhaler use another child's

Health Care Plans

Health care plans are implemented for children with significant asthma medical needs, in collaboration with the SENDCo, Class Teacher, Parents and Health Professionals. Health Care Plans are updated whenever there is a change in a child's medical condition or medication.

Issue Status

Date	Issue	Review date
May 2015	Version 1- May 2015	Summer 2021
November 2019	Version 2 – November 2019	Autumn 2025