



Ashleigh Primary School.

Asthma Policy

Reviewed: July 2022
Review date: July 2023



British Values

Through its curriculum, extra-curricular activities, teaching and learning this school will promote British values. By doing so, we will ensure that all learners understand the values that have traditionally underpinned British society. The teaching of these values will promote cohesiveness within our school and community. We will prepare pupils for life in England where the population has an increasingly rich diversity of backgrounds, origins, beliefs and cultures by promoting the values on which our society has been built. By teaching pupils these values we will help all to become good citizens of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Race Equality and Racial Harassment

Implicit in all our policies is a belief in race equality and everything will be done to promote this. We do not tolerate racial harassment. (Refer to School's Race Equality and Racial Harassment Policies).

ASTHMA POLICY

This policy has been written with advice from Asthma UK.

Ashleigh Primary school:

- welcomes all children with asthma
- recognises that asthma is an important condition affecting many children
- encourages and helps children with asthma to participate fully in school life
- recognises the need for immediate access to inhalers
- does all it can to make sure that the school environment is favourable to asthmatics
- ensures that all staff understand asthma
- understands what to do in the event of a child having an asthma attack and will, if necessary, give emergency treatment and inform parents accordingly
- has an emergency inhaler available for use by any child having severe breathing problems, if that child's parents have given prior written consent for its use
- works in partnership with children parents, staff, governors and the school health service to ensure the successful implementation of this asthma policy.

1. Ashleigh Primary School recognises that asthma is an important condition affecting many schoolchildren and positively welcomes all pupils with asthma.

2. 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. New staff are also made aware of the policy.

All of the teaching staff and non-teaching staff will have asthma basic awareness training and the training will be updated at regular intervals. We also have fully trained paediatric first aiders.



3. When a child joins the school the parents are asked to inform us if their child has asthma.

It is also important that parents inform the school if their child **subsequently** develops asthma. All parents of children with asthma are asked to give us information about their child's medication. Parents complete a Medical Form, kept in the School Office for our records. From this information the school keeps a medical register. If the child's medication changes parents are asked to inform the school.

4. Immediate access to reliever inhalers is vital. Children are encouraged to carry their own reliever inhaler as soon as the parent, doctor and class teacher agree they are mature enough. The reliever inhalers of younger children are kept in the classroom or the school office, in a readily accessible place, depending on the child's needs. Reliever inhalers are taken with the children when they go on a school trip. All reliever inhalers must be labeled with the child's name by the parent. School staff are not required to administer medication to children except in an emergency, however many of our staff are happy to do this. An emergency inhaler is kept in the school office for any child who has a severe breathing problem causing him/her distress. Parents will be notified immediately.

All school staff will let children take their medication when they need to.

5. Taking part in PE is an essential part of school life and children with asthma are encouraged to participate fully. Teachers are aware of which children in their class have asthma and they will remind children whose asthma is triggered by exercise to take their reliever inhaler before the lesson. If a child needs to use their reliever inhaler during the lesson they will be able to do so.

6. The school does all that it can to ensure that the school environment is favourable to children with asthma. The school has a non-smoking policy and is aware of the possible effects of keeping pets in the classroom. As far as is possible the school does not use chemicals in science or art that are potential triggers for children with asthma.

7. If a child is missing a lot of school because of asthma the class teacher will try to provide work for the child to do at home. If the child starts to fall behind in class the teacher will talk to the school nurse and the special educational needs co-ordinator about the situation. The school recognises that it is possible for children with asthma to have special educational needs because of asthma.



8. All staff who come into contact with children with asthma know what to do in the event of an asthma attack. The following procedure is displayed in various locations around school, including in class:

IN THE EVENT OF AN ASTHMA ATTACK

- 1. Deal with the child wherever the attack occurs. (A change of air can make the problem worse.)**
- 2. Ensure the child's reliever inhaler is taken immediately.**
- 3. Help the child to breathe by ensuring tight clothing is loosened and arms are resting on the back of a chair, then send for a first aider.**
- 4. If there is no improvement after 5 minutes give the child the reliever inhaler again.**
- 5. Contact the parents and call an ambulance if:-**
 - the reliever inhaler has had no effect after a further 5 to 10 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**

Minor attacks should not interrupt a child's involvement in school. When they feel better they can return to school activities. Parents will be informed if their child has an asthma attack in school.