

# Ashurst Wood Primary School

## Asthma Policy

Refer also to the WSCC Asthma Toolkit

To be used in conjunction with:

Medicines in School Policy, Medical Conditions Policy – supporting pupils with, First Aid Policy



Updated: March 2022

Review date: Spring Term 2 2023

Asthma link staff – Mrs Tracey Mumford

# Ashurst Wood Asthma Policy

Ashurst Wood Primary School recognises that asthma is a widespread, serious but controllable condition and the school welcomes all pupils with asthma. We ensure that pupils with asthma can and do participate fully in all aspects of school life, including art lessons, PE, science, visits, outings or field trips and other out-of-hours school activities.

This is achieved through:

- Ensuring that children have access to asthma pumps as needed.
- Keeping a record of all pupils with asthma and the medicines they take.
- Creating a whole school environment, including the physical, social, sporting and educational environment, that is accessible to pupils with asthma.
- Helping all pupils to understand asthma as a medical condition.
- Making sure that all staff (including supply teachers and support staff) who come into contact with pupils with asthma know what to do in the event of an asthma attack.
- Working in partnership with all interested parties including the school's governing body, all school staff, school nurses, parents/carers, Local Authority, doctors, nurses and pupils to ensure the policy is planned, implemented and maintained successfully.

## **Asthma medicines**

Immediate access to reliever medicines is essential. Reliever inhalers belonging to children are kept in named boxes in the child's classroom. School staff are not required to administer asthma medicines to pupils (except in an emergency). All staff will let pupils take their own medicine when they need to. This is supervised either by the class teacher or TA. All medicines must be in their original packaging complete with the original instructions for use.

## **Emergency Inhalers**

Emergency Salamol Inhalers are kept in school, and taken on off-site activities, in the event that a pupil's personal inhaler is broken or empty. Parents sign a permission slip in order to allow their children to use this emergency inhaler. The emergency inhaler will **never** be given to a pupil without a diagnosis, prescription and signed parental permission. A document entitled, 'Guidance on the Use of Emergency Salbutamol Inhalers in School' is available for reference in the **blue** folder.

## **Asthma register**

Children with asthma have details of their condition and requirements documented on forms in the **red** folder kept in the medical room. When a child joins the school part of their admission pack is a form (Appendix 1) to alert the school to asthma needs. In addition, a meeting with parents may be arranged. The completed form and meeting are used to develop an asthma care plan which is kept in the **red** folder. The Asthma Link Staff will collate the forms and will also be the point of contact for the parents (or named responsible carer), delivering the inhalers that will be held by the school.

## **Training**

Head teachers are responsible for assessing and arranging for training needs to be met. Posters which contain emergency information will be displayed at key points throughout the school.

## **Home/School Liaison**

Parents are asked to complete and update asthma records on admission (see Appendix 1), and to update them annually. They are also required to update them more frequently if the condition or medication changes.

Absence of parental consent should not stop staff from acting appropriately in emergencies.

A record of when a child takes their asthma relief is kept on the Record of Medicine Administered to All Children (See Appendix 2). This record is in the Blue Folder, found in the locked cupboard in the medical room.

Parents will be informed verbally if an inhaler is used during the day. Any irregularities are also reported to parents, for example a child needing to take asthma relief more than is usual for that child.

Parents are responsible for checking expiry dates, updating and delivering any prescribed inhaler that their child may use.

### **Exercise and activity – PE and games**

Taking part in sports, games and activities is an essential part of school life for all pupils. All teachers know which children in their class have asthma; and their inhalers are kept in the classroom. We encourage children as they get older to try to remember this themselves and to take more control in remembering their medication. Pupils with asthma are encouraged to participate fully in all PE lessons. Teachers will remind pupils whose asthma is triggered by exercise to take their reliever inhaler before the lesson, and to thoroughly warm up and down before and after the lesson. If a pupil needs to use their inhaler during a lesson they will be encouraged to do so.

### **Off-site sport and swimming and Educational Visits**

The health benefits of exercise are well documented. Inhalers are taken off site and are kept by the leader of the group when the child participates in swimming, sports activities and educational visits. These are returned to the class teachers as soon as possible on return to school. These inhalers will also be given to companies and individuals providing transportation for pupils to and from school. To cover the issue of confidentiality, parents of pupils with inhalers will sign a permission slip on the child's IHP master copy, to allow companies and individuals to carry the inhalers.

### **School environment**

The school does all that it can to ensure the school environment is accessible to pupils with asthma. The school does not keep furry or feathered animals and has a definitive no-smoking policy. As far as possible the school does not use chemicals in science and art lessons that are potential triggers for pupils with asthma. Pupils with asthma are encouraged to leave the room and go and sit in the school office if particular fumes trigger their asthma.

### **If a pupil is falling behind in lessons**

If a pupil is missing a lot of time at school or is always tired because their asthma is disturbing their sleep at night, the class teacher will initially talk to the parents/carers to work out how to prevent their child from falling behind. If appropriate, the teacher will then talk to Special Education Needs Coordinator about the pupil's needs. The school recognises that it is possible for pupils with asthma to have special education needs due to their asthma.

### **Asthma attacks**

All staff who come into contact with pupils with asthma know what to do in the event of an asthma attack. In the event of an asthma attack the school follows the procedure outlined by Asthma UK in its School Asthma Pack. This procedure is visibly displayed in the medical area.

### **Review Period**

This policy will be reviewed annually

### **Asthma link staff – Mrs Tracey Mumford**

Asthma Care Plan

Photo

<b>Child's Name</b>	
<b>School Name</b>	Ashurst Wood Primary School
<b>Date of Birth</b>	
<b>Parent(s) Name(s)</b>	
<b>Telephone No.</b>	<b>Home</b>
	<b>Mobile</b>
	<b>Work</b>
<b>Doctor Surgery and GP Name</b>	
<b>Doctor Telephone No.</b>	

<b>Known Triggers/Allergies</b>	
<b>Other Medical Information/Regular Prescribed Medication</b>	

<b>Medication</b>	<b>Has your child been prescribed a prevention inhaler? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></b>
	<b>If yes, please give information such as type, dosage and when administered:</b>
<b>Reliever Medication</b>	<b>Name of medication:</b>
	<b>Dosage:</b>
	<b>When to take/symptoms:</b>

**Emergency Treatment**

In the event of an asthma attack, I agree that a trained adult may administer my child's reliever medication. I also sign to ensure that their medication is in date and it is in its original packaging, clearly labelled with the pharmacist's original label, indicating my child's name and the dosage. I will update the Asthma link person (Mrs Mumford) should my child's diagnosis or condition change. I also sign to agree that this care plan and my child's medication may be handed to other parties and individuals during school trips and excursions, should an emergency situation arise.

Signed ..... Date.....

In the event that your child's inhaler may be broken or empty the school holds a supply of Salamol (reliever medication). Please tick the appropriate box indicating whether you want the school to administer the emergency inhaler to your child, should their inhaler be either broken or empty? Yes  No

Signed..... Date.....

