



HIPPINGS METHODIST PRIMARY SCHOOL



Asthma Policy

'As a family we do our best with God in our hearts'
I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me: Philippians 4 verse 13

Our loving school endeavours to provide the best possible all-round education in a Christian setting. We will be a family that does our best with God in our hearts understanding that we are all His children. We aim for all within our school to develop spiritually, morally, academically and culturally.

Hippings Methodist Primary School recognises that asthma is a widespread, serious but controllable condition affecting many pupils at the school. Our school positively welcomes all pupils with asthma. This school encourages pupils with asthma to achieve their potential in all aspects of school life by having a clear policy that is understood by school staff, pupils and their parents. Supply teachers and new staff are also made aware of the policy.

. Asthma medicines

- Immediate access to reliever medicines is essential. Pupil's asthma reliever inhalers are easily accessible to the individuals should they be needed. Inhalers for children in Reception, Key Stage 1 and Lower Key stage 2 are kept in a box in their classroom. Children in upper Key stage 2 may keep their inhalers in their own trays.
 - Parents/carers are asked to ensure that the school is provided with a labelled reliever inhaler.
 - School staff are not to administer asthma medicines to pupils. Although they will supervise children whilst taking the inhaler. In the case of a severe attack, where a child is unable to administer his /her own medication, the member of staff is required under common law, duty of care, to act like any reasonably prudent parent. This may include administering the medication.
- All school staff will let pupils take their own medicines when they need to.

Record keeping

- At the beginning of each school year or when a child joins the school, parents/carers are asked if their child has any medical conditions including asthma on their enrolment form.
- All parents/carers of children with asthma are then sent an Asthma UK *School Asthma Card**(also on the school website) to give to their child's doctor or asthma nurse to complete. Parents/carers are asked to return them to the school. From this information the school keeps its asthma register, which is available to all school staff. *School Asthma Cards** are then sent to parents/carers of children with asthma on an annual basis to update. Parents/carers are also asked to update or exchange the card for a new one if their child's medicines, or how much they take, changes during the year.

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 all PE teachers at the school are aware of which pupils have asthma from the school's asthma register.
- 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.

Inhalers should be taken with the child if they are taking part in P.E on the field.

Off Site Activities

If a child with asthma is participating in sport or other activity off the school site, the teacher responsible will ensure that all inhalers are collected and taken by a responsible adult. If a child with asthma is participating in an educational visit the class teacher will ensure that asthma inhalers are taken with them.

In the Case of an Asthma Attack.

All staff know what to do in the event of an asthma attack. The school will follow the procedures outlined by Asthma UK.

Staff Responsibility

All school staff have a responsibility to:

- understand the school asthma policy
- know which pupils they come into contact with have asthma
- know what to do in an asthma attack
- allow pupils with asthma immediate access to their reliever inhaler
- tell parents/carers if their child has had an asthma attack
- tell parents/carers if their child is using more reliever inhaler than they usually would
- ensure pupils have their asthma medicines with them when they go on a school trip or out of the classroom
- ensure pupils who have been unwell catch up on missed school work
- be aware that a pupil may be tired because of night-time symptoms
- liaise with parents/carers, the school nurse and special educational needs coordinators if a child is falling behind with their work because of their asthma.

Parents/ Carers Responsibility

Parents/carers have a responsibility to:

- tell the school if their child has asthma
- ensure the school has a complete and up-to-date school asthma card for their child
- inform the school about the medicines their child requires during school hours
- inform the school of any medicines the child requires while taking part in visits, outings or field trips and other out-of-school activities such as school team sports
- tell the school about any changes to their child's medicines, what they take and how much
- inform the school of any changes to their child's asthma (for example, if their symptoms are getting worse or they are sleeping badly due to their asthma)
- ensure their child's reliever inhaler (and spacer where relevant) is labelled with their name

Emergency Asthma Kit

As from the 1st of October 2014 the Human Medicine Regulations 2014 allows schools to obtain salbutamol inhalers without a prescription. These will be put into an Emergency Asthma Kit which could be used in an emergency, eg, if a child loses their inhaler, if their inhaler is out of date.

Our kit will include

- Salbutamol Inhaler
- 2 spacers
- Instructions on how to clean and store the inhaler
- Manufacturers information.

- Checklist of expiry dates and register of monthly checks
- List of children to use inhaler and record of administration.

Policy reviewed by T.Westwell (January 2021)