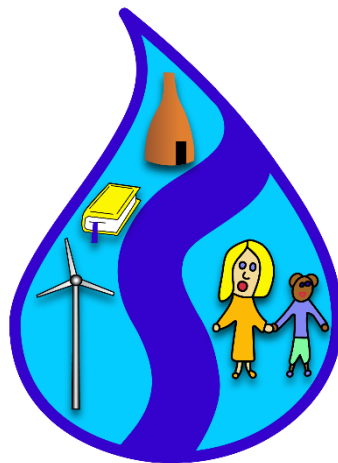


Waterside Primary School



Asthma Policy

(In line with new statutory guidance 2026)

Reviewed Date	Reviewed By	Ratified
30.03.26	L Willis	

1. Purpose

This policy outlines how the school supports pupils with asthma so they can participate fully in school life, remain safe, and receive prompt, effective treatment during asthma symptoms or an asthma attack.

2. Legal and Statutory Framework

This policy is informed by:

- Children and Families Act 2014
- Equality Act 2010
- DfE *Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions at School* (2024)
- DfE guidance on the use of **emergency salbutamol inhalers in schools**
- Health and Safety at Work Act 1974

3. Aims

The school aims to:

- Ensure pupils with asthma are fully included in all aspects of school life
- Provide safe, effective support for asthma management
- Ensure staff are trained to recognise and respond to asthma symptoms
- Maintain clear communication with families and healthcare professionals
- Reduce risk through consistent procedures and planning

4. Roles and Responsibilities

4.1 Governing Body

- Ensures the school meets statutory duties.
- Monitors the effectiveness of this policy.

4.2 Headteacher

- Ensures staff receive asthma awareness training annually.
- Oversees the use and maintenance of the **emergency salbutamol inhaler**.
- Ensures Individual Healthcare Plans (IHPs) are in place for pupils with asthma.

4.3 Staff

- Know how to recognise asthma symptoms and respond appropriately.
- Follow pupils' IHPs and emergency procedures.
- Ensure inhalers accompany pupils on trips and activities.

4.4 Parents/Carers

- Provide up-to-date medical information.
- Supply a **named, in-date reliever inhaler** and spacer.
- Work with the school to develop and review IHPs.

4.5 Pupils

- Encouraged to develop age-appropriate understanding of their asthma.
- Supported to self-manage when developmentally appropriate (usually KS2).

5. Identification and Support of Pupils with Asthma

5.1 Admission and Induction

- Parents must declare asthma or suspected asthma on admission forms.
- The school will meet with parents to create an IHP where needed.

5.2 Individual Healthcare Plans (IHPs)

IHPs will include:

- Diagnosis and typical symptoms
- Triggers
- Medication details
- Emergency procedures
- Arrangements for PE, trips and clubs
- Review schedule (at least annually)

6. Medication Management

6.1 Storage

- Pupils' inhalers are stored in clearly labelled, accessible locations.
- EYFS pupils' inhalers are kept with staff at all times.
- KS2 pupils may carry their own inhaler with parental consent.

6.2 Emergency Salbutamol Inhaler

The school will hold an emergency inhaler for use when:

- A pupil's own inhaler is not available, broken or empty
- Parental consent has been provided

The emergency inhaler will be:

- Stored in an unlocked, clearly marked location
- Checked monthly for expiry and cleanliness
- Used with a spacer

6.3 Administration

- Only trained staff may administer inhalers.
- All use of inhalers is recorded.

7. Recognising Asthma Symptoms

Staff must be alert to:

- Coughing

- Wheezing
- Shortness of breath
- Tight chest
- Difficulty speaking in full sentences
- Pale, clammy skin
- Increasing anxiety or distress

8. Emergency Procedures

8.1 If a pupil is having an asthma attack

1. Stay calm and reassure the pupil.
2. Sit the pupil upright.
3. Administer **one puff of reliever inhaler** via spacer.
4. Give **up to 10 puffs**, one puff at a time, with 30–60 seconds between puffs.
5. If no improvement after 10 puffs, **call 999**.
6. Continue to give 10 puffs every 10 minutes until help arrives.
7. Contact parents/carers.
8. Record the incident and review the IHP.

8.2 Call 999 immediately if:

- The pupil is struggling to breathe
- They are too breathless to speak
- Their lips or skin turn blue
- They become drowsy or collapse
- You are worried at any point

9. Physical Activity, PE and School Trips

- Pupils with asthma will not be excluded from activities.
- Reliever inhalers must be available during PE and outdoor activities.
- Staff leading trips must know which pupils have asthma and carry inhalers.

10. Reducing Risk

- Avoid known triggers where possible (e.g., pollen, cold air, dust).
- Ensure classrooms are well-ventilated.
- Avoid strong chemicals, aerosols or fumes.
- Maintain an up-to-date asthma register.

11. Training

All staff receive annual training on:

- Recognising asthma symptoms

- Using inhalers and spacers
- Emergency procedures

Additional training is provided for new staff and those supporting specific pupils.

12. Record-Keeping

The school maintains:

- An asthma register
- IHPs
- Medication administration records
- Emergency inhaler usage log
- Training records

13. Monitoring and Review

This policy is reviewed annually or sooner if guidance changes.