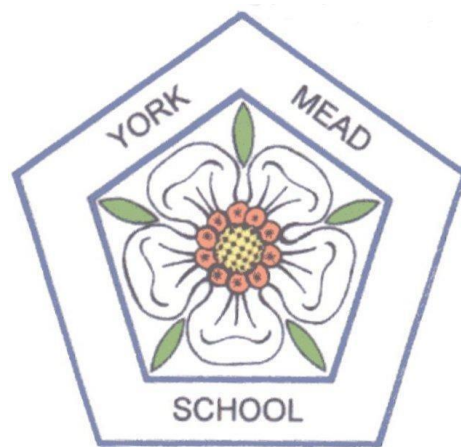


# Asthma Policy

Yorkmead J&I School



**Approved by:**

Governing Body

**Date:**

**Last reviewed on:**

**Next review due by:**

## **Rationale**

Yorkmead Junior and Infant School recognises that asthma is a widespread, serious, but controllable condition affecting many pupils. We encourage children with asthma to achieve their potential in all aspects of school life by having a clear policy that is understood by school staff, Governors, parents and pupils. Supply staff and new staff are also made aware of the policy. All staff who come into contact with children who have asthma are provided with training on asthma from the school nurse. Training is updated annually.

## **Asthma medication**

Medication to treat the symptoms of asthma comes in the form of inhalers. Some children will have a preventer inhaler (usually brown) these are children who have moderate to severe asthma. This type of inhaler is used daily to reduce the number of asthma attacks. All children who have asthma will have a reliever inhaler (usually blue). Reliever inhalers work by relaxing the muscles surrounding the airways making breathing easier.

Immediate access to reliever inhalers is vital. Reliever inhalers for all children are kept in an individual, named wallet in their class medication box. Parents are asked to supply school with a labelled, in date inhaler to be kept in school. School staff are not required to administer medicine. **All staff will let children take their own inhaler when they need to.**

## **Emergency inhaler**

The school holds emergency inhalers which are available for use only by those children for whom written parental consent has been given. The emergency inhalers are located in the First Aid room and the School Office. There is also an inhaler available for off site school trips.

## **Record keeping**

When a child first joins the school, or if they are later diagnosed with asthma, parents are asked to complete an asthma form which is kept on file in the First Aid room. A list of children with asthma is displayed in both the First Aid room and in the Staffroom.

## **PE**

Taking part in sports is an essential part of school life. Children with asthma are encouraged to participate in PE. Each child's inhaler will be readily available for appropriate use both before and during the PE lesson as required.

## **Off-site school visits, activities and outings**

On every off site trip, activity or outing a member of staff who is asthma trained will be in attendance. Staff will ensure that all pupils inhalers are taken with them on every off-site visit, activity or outing. However, an emergency inhaler kit will also be available for use by those children for whom written parental consent has been given. Failure to provide an inhaler or an asthma consent form will result in the pupil not being allowed to participate in the activity.

## **Asthma attacks**

All staff who come into contact with pupils who have asthma know what to do in the event of an asthma attack. In the event of a child suffering from an asthma attack Yorkmead School follows the procedure outlined in the Schools Asthma Attack Flow Chart (Appendix 1)

### **Governors will :**

- seek to ensure the health and safety of all staff, pupils and visitors on the school premises. This responsibility extends to any staff and other persons leading activities taking place off-site, such as visits, outings or residential visits.
- ensure that an appropriate Asthma Policy is in place.
- make sure the Asthma Policy is effectively monitored and regularly updated.
- provide indemnity for staff who volunteer to administer medication to pupils with asthma who require support.

### **School staff will :**

- follow the Asthma Policy
- know which pupils whom they come into contact with, have asthma.
- know what to do in the event of someone having an asthma attack.
- allow pupils with asthma immediate access to their reliever inhaler.
- inform parents/carers if their child has an asthma attack.
- inform parents/carers if their child is using their reliever inhaler more than they usually would.
- ensure pupils have their asthma medication with them when they go off site.
- ensure pupils have their asthma medication with them during PE lessons.
- liaise with parents/carers, the school nurse and the schools Medical Needs Officer.
- receive regular asthma awareness training.

### **Pupils will :**

- treat other pupils with and without asthma equally.
- let any pupil having an asthma attack take their reliever inhaler.
- tell their parents/carers, member of staff or First Aider when they are not feeling well.
- treat asthma medication with respect.
- know how to gain access to their medication in an emergency.
- know how to take their own asthma medication.

**Parents/carers will :**

- ensure school has the correct, labelled and in date inhaler.
- ensure their child's reliever inhaler and spacer are labelled with their child's name.
- ensure the correct sized spacer is supplied to school.
- inform school of any medication that their child requires while taking part in off-site activities or visits.
- inform 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 attends regular asthma reviews with their doctor or asthma nurse

Awaiting Ratification

# Appendix 1

## Schools Asthma Attack Flow Chart

