

ASTHMA POLICY

Statement of Intent

Nationally about one in seven children have asthma and numbers are increasing. We want to make sure that having asthma does not mean children losing out when they are at school. Most children with asthma can have a full and active life. This policy will help pupils with the management of their asthma while they are at school. This policy supplements the 'Administration of medication in school' and 'Health and Safety' policies.

Asthma register

- When a child joins the school part of their admission pack is a form to alert the school to asthma needs. The return of this completed form will ensure that they are placed on the Sale & Davys Primary School Asthma Register (see appendix 1). The Asthma Link person will collate the register and also contact the parents or named responsible carer, to obtain the inhalers that will be held by the school.

Indemnity

- Staff who are happy to administer medication will be provided with indemnity.
- In emergencies staff should act as any prudent parent would, which may include giving medication.
- Each inhaler provided by parents / carers for pupils to use must be within date, named and prescribed with an appropriate pharmacy label.

Access to Inhalers

- Two inhalers are kept in school, one in class, one as a spare, kept in the medicine cupboard in the staff room, in case the inhaler runs out or becomes lost.
- Parents/carers must supply the school with inhalers in the original prescription labelled box. This will identify the child's name and dosage.
- Parents/carers must supply a spacer if their child uses one, preferably in a draw-string bag, so that that inhaler and spacer shall be kept together.
- Inhalers shall be kept in classrooms and shall be taken to PE lessons in the hall or outdoors.
- Children are allowed access to their inhalers at any time in the school day, should they feel the need to use it.
- Inhalers should accompany them when taking part in off-site activities, or residential trips and either kept with the child or supervising adult.
- Inhalers should be taken outside along with the register for fire drills.

Staff Awareness and action in asthma emergencies

- All staff need to be able to manage attacks. Staff will do what a 'reasonable parent' would do in the circumstances prevailing at the time.
- For mild attacks children should take their usual reliever inhaler, as per instructions.
- For severe attacks a Metered Dose Inhaler should be used. Encourage relaxation. An asthma box is kept in each classroom for the children to access.
- If the child
 - does not feel better in 5-10 minutes,
 - is distressed or exhausted,
 - is unable to talk in sentences,
 - has blue lips

or you have any doubts then the action required is...

- one adult should stay with pupil and use reliever inhaler via spacer while another adult dials 999 for ambulance and states that the child is having a severe asthma attack requiring immediate attention.
- Continue to give relief inhaler while help arrives as per instructions on inhaler.
- Inform parents of the situation and actions taken.
- The incident should then be recorded in the Asthma register in the main office by the person who dealt with the attack, and the entry should be signed and dated by them.

Forgotten or Lost Inhalers

- If a child's condition does not indicate the need to dial 999 i.e. not a severe attack, contact parents to bring in inhaler or collect child.
- If the child is experiencing a severe attack call 999 without delay.

Policy approved.....at a Full Governors Meeting

Date of meeting: 7th March 2018

Minute Number: 7.1

Renewal Frequency: 3 years



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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, 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.
- Parents will be informed if an inhaler is used during the day by use of a text and the use of an inhaler will also be recorded in school, in the Asthma register.

Minimising exposure to triggers

Where possible...

- We will avoid feathery or furry school pets.
- We will avoid pollen producing plants.
- There is a complete ban on smoking in or on the premises.

Asthma link staff – Mrs Carol Toplis

Policy approved.....at a Full Governors Meeting

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APPENDIX 1

Asthma Record (Care Plan)

Surname First Name

My child's details and contact numbers:

Date of Birth

Parent(s) name(s)

Telephone Home Work Mobile

Doctor (GP) name Doctor (GP) telephone

Asthma nurse

Known triggers/allergies

Any other medical problems?

My Child's Medication

Reliever medication (usually blue)

Medication name (e.g. SALBUTAMOL)	Device (e.g. diskhaler)	Dose (e.g. 1 blister)	When taken (e.g. when wheezy, before exercise)

Other Medication

Most preventers can be taken outside of school hours – check with your GP or asthma nurse

Medication name	How taken/device	Dose	When taken

Emergency Treatment

In the event of a severe asthma I am happy for my child to receive up to 10-20 puffs of their reliever (usually Salbutamol) inhaler via a spacer until they get further medical help.

Signed: (Parent) Date

Key points for parents to remember:

This record is for your school. Remember to update it if treatment is changed. Remember to check you have enough inhaler doses and that the inhaler is in date and labelled by the pharmacist with your child's name and dosage details.

The section below is to be completed by school staff

Has this child got a healthcare plan for any other condition?

Yes (discuss with school nursing staff)

No

Asthma record checked by asthma link person (Name)

Any concerns to be discussed with school health advisor/school nurse:

Record of discussion: Signature/Date:

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