



Asthma Policy

This policy is an addendum to the 'Administration of Medicines' in William Stockton Primary School policy and this policy should be referred to in conjunction with this Asthma Policy.

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

Aims and Objectives

Our administration of asthma medicine requirements will be achieved by:

- Establishing principles for safe practice in the management and administration of asthma medication.
- Providing clear guidance to all staff on the administration of asthma medicines.
- Ensuring that there are sufficient numbers of appropriately trained staff to manage and administer asthma medicines.
- Ensuring that there are suitable and sufficient facilities and equipment available to aid the safe management and administration of asthma medicines
- Ensuring the policy is reviewed periodically or following any significant change which may affect the management or administration of asthma medicines.

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 Asthma List. The parents of the child will be contacted to complete an 'Asthma Plan'.

Access to Inhalers

- Individual pupils' inhalers are kept in their classrooms or the school office.
- Children are allowed access to their inhalers at any time in the school day, should they feel they need to use it.
- Inhalers should accompany them when taking part in off site activities, or residential trips.
- 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.
- If the child does not
 - o feel better in 5-10 minutes
 - o is distressed or exhausted
 - o is unable to talk in sentences,
 - o has blue lips
 - o or you have any doubts

Then the following action required is...

1. 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.
2. Continue to give relief inhaler while help arrives as per instructions on inhaler.
3. Inform parents of the situation and actions taken.
4. The incident should then be recorded by the person who dealt with the attack, and the entry should be signed and dated by them.

Training

- Head teachers are responsible for assessing and arranging for training needs to be met.

Home/School Liaison

- Parents are asked to complete and update their child's 'Asthma Plan' 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, and the use of an inhaler will also be recorded in school.

To be reviewed in the Autumn term annually.