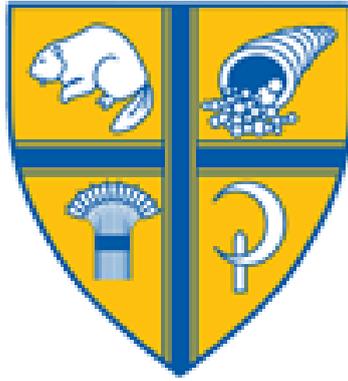


William Stockton Primary School's



Asthma Policy

This policy has been written with advice from the Department for Education and Employment, National Asthma Campaign, the local education authority, the school health service, parents, the governing body and pupils

Medication

Immediate access to a reliever inhaler is vital.

Children should always tell their class teacher or first aider when they have need for their inhaler. Records are kept each time an inhaler is used by trained First Aider

The reliever inhalers are kept in their individual classroom in a designated first aid area

All inhalers must be labelled with the child's name by the parent.

Trained First Aid staff will support each child with the administering of their medication. Staff are insured by the local education authority when acting in accordance with this policy.

Record Keeping

At the beginning of each school year, or when a child joins the school, parents are asked to inform the school if their child is asthmatic. All parents of children with asthma are required to complete a School Asthma form and return it to the school. The Asthma form contains parental permission for staff to administer the School Emergency inhaler if required.

From this information the school keeps its asthma register which is kept in a folder in the staff room. If any changes are made to a child's medication it is the responsibility of the parents or carer to inform the school.

William Stockton Primary School holds an emergency inhaler and spacer as per 'Guidance on the use of Emergency Salbutamol inhalers in schools'. This medication can only be administered to children on the Asthma Register. First Aiders can administer the emergency inhaler

Asthma inhalers for each child are regularly checked for expiry dates by a named member of staff. Each child's inhaler is kept in their own classroom in a named wallet containing their individual medication and asthma card, in their class designated first aid area.

All staff members are responsible for acquainting themselves with the triggers of a possible attack (allergies, colds, cough, cold weather) for each individual child in their care. All this information is found in their medication wallet along with their medication.

PE

Taking part in sports is an essential part of school life. Teachers are aware of which children have asthma from the asthma register. Children with asthma are encouraged to participate fully in PE. Teachers will remind children whose asthma is triggered by exercise to take their reliever inhaler before the lesson. Each child's inhalers will be labelled and kept in a box at the site of the lesson. If a child needs to use their inhaler during the lesson, they will be encouraged to do so. Records are kept every time a child uses their inhaler.

School Trips and Outside Activities

When a child is away from the school classroom on a school trip, club, outside sport or PE, their inhaler should accompany them and be made available to them at all times.

The School Environment

The school does all that it can to ensure the school environment is favourable to children with asthma. The school does not keep furry and feathery pets and has a non-smoking policy. On occasion, some classes do take part in the egg/chick scheme. Teachers will be aware of any child who has a fur or feather allergy and will act appropriately. As far as possible the school does not use chemicals in science and art lessons that are potential triggers for children with asthma. Children are encouraged to leave the room and go and sit in the break out area if particular fumes trigger their asthma.

Making the School Asthma Friendly

The school ensures that all children understand asthma. Asthma can be included in Key Stages 1 and 2 in science, design and technology, geography, history and PE of the national curriculum. Children with asthma and their friends are encouraged to learn about asthma; information for children and teens can be accessed from the following website www.asthma.org.uk.

When a Child is falling behind in lessons

If a child is missing a lot of time from school because of asthma or is tired in class because of disturbed sleep and falling behind in class, the class teacher will initially talk to the parents. If appropriate the teacher will then talk to the school nursing team and special educational needs coordinator about the situation. The school recognises that it is possible for children with asthma to have special education needs because of asthma.

Asthma Attacks

All staff who come into contact with children with asthma know what to do in the event of an asthma attack. The school follows the following procedure, which is clearly displayed in all classrooms.

1. Ensure that the reliever inhaler is taken immediately.
2. Stay calm and reassure the child.
3. Help the child to breathe **by ensuring tight clothing is loosened**.

After the attack

Minor attacks should not interrupt a child's involvement in school. When they feel better they can return to school activities.

The child's parents must be informed about the attack.

Emergency procedure

If the pupil does not feel better or you are worried at any time before reaching 10 puffs from the inhaler, call 999 for an ambulance.

If the ambulance has not arrived after 10 minutes, give an additional 10 puffs as detailed above.

In the event of an ambulance being called, the pupil's parents or carers should always be contacted.

In the event of a pupil being taken to hospital by ambulance, they should always be accompanied by a member of staff until a parent or carer is present.

