



St. Luke's CE Primary School

Where children flourish, are happy and succeed. Living their life to the full.
Believe and Achieve



Working together to be happy; to flourish; to succeed through our Christian Values of friendship, love, patience, forgiveness, trust and respect.

"I have come that they may have life and have it to the full." John 10:10

The Children and Families Act 2014 places a duty on governing bodies of maintained schools to make arrangements for supporting children at their school with medical conditions

The Principles of our school Asthma Policy

- The School recognises that asthma is an important condition affecting many school children and welcomes all pupils with asthma
- Ensures that children with asthma participate fully in all aspects of school life including PE
- Recognises that immediate access to reliever inhalers is vital
- Keeps records of children with asthma and the medication they take
- Ensures the school environment is favourable to children with asthma
- Ensures that other children understand asthma

- Ensures all staff who come into contact with children with asthma know what to do in the event of an asthma attack
- Will work in partnership with all interested parties including all school staff, parents, governors, doctors and nurses, and children to ensure the policy is implemented and maintained successfully

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

1. This school recognises that asthma is an important condition affecting many school children and positively welcomes all pupils with asthma.
2. This school encourages children with asthma to achieve their potential in all aspects of school life by having a clear policy that is understood by school staff, their employers (the local education authority) and pupils. Supply teachers and new staff are also made aware of the policy. First aiders are trained how to support children with an asthma attack and all staff have annual training from the school health team about asthma and anaphylaxis. This has most recently taken place in October 2023.

Medication

Immediate access to reliever is vital. The reliever inhalers of children are stored in the pupil's individual classroom where, should the pupil need them in an emergency, they are accessible to the pupil and adults in the room. Parents are asked to ensure that the school is provided with a reliever inhaler. All inhalers must be labelled with the child's name by the parent.

Wherever possible, following discussion with parents/carers, children with asthma should be taught how to administer their own medicines if they are capable of doing this with staff supervision. They should know where their own medication is kept in the classroom and should be able to use these correctly. Where a child is too young or not capable to administer their own medicines, relevant staff will help to administer medicines and manage procedures for them.

First aiders and other school staff (where applicable) 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 if their child has asthma. All parents of children with asthma are given a National Asthma Campaign school card to fill in and return to school. From this information the school keeps its asthma register which is available for all school staff. Cards are then sent to parents on an annual basis to update. If medication changes in between times, parents are asked to inform the school. For GDPR purposes, records will only be kept in the Management Office and only viewed as and when needed by First Aiders or school staff who need to.

All medicines in school must be in date and checked regularly. Asthma inhalers are checked termly for dates by staff in school and records are kept in the Deputy Head's office. Asthma records of pupils with blue preventer inhalers are also kept in the Deputy Head's office and these state dose and what to look out for. Copies are also kept in classrooms so that staff have access quickly to know how many puffs of the inhaler the pupil should have.

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 and complete a warm up of a couple of short sprints over five minutes 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.

The School Environment

The school does all that it can to ensure the school environment is favourable to children with asthma. The school does have some animals, but children with asthma are reminded to be mindful of these animals if fur is a trigger. As far as possible the school does not use chemicals in science and art lessons that are potential triggers for children with 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 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 nurse and special educational needs coordinator (Mrs G. Cropper) 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,

- Ensure that the reliever inhaler is taken immediately.**
- Stay calm and reassure the child.**
- Help the child to breathe by ensuring tight clothing is loosened.**
- Call an ambulance if breathing does not improve**
- Contact pupil's parents**

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 told about the attack.

Emergency procedure

Call an ambulance if:

- The reliever has no effect after five to ten minutes
- The child is either distressed or unable to talk
- The child is getting exhausted
- You have any doubts at all about the child's condition

- If for any reason the child stops breathing, an ambulance should be called immediately

A child should always be taken to hospital in an ambulance. School staff should not take them in their car as the child's condition may deteriorate

Date of Review: September 2023