


# Asthma Policy



## Oastlers Policy

Updated May 2016

<b>Approved by Governing Body On</b>	<b>24 May 2016</b>
<b>To be Reviewed On</b>	<b>May 2018</b>
<b>Signed on Behalf of the Governing Body</b>	<b>Robert Fairbairn</b> 

## Policy Statement

This policy has been put together in collaboration with school staff, parents, School Nurses, Governors and volunteers to ensure that the individual needs of pupils are met when a child has asthma.

This policy:

- Recognises the needs of pupils with asthma
- Ensures that children with asthma participate as fully as possible in all aspects of school life, including for example Physical Education (PE), visits, outings and field trips
- Ensures staff are trained in how to deal with an asthma attack

This school recognises that asthma is a widespread, serious but controllable condition affecting many pupils at the school. The school positively welcomes all pupils with asthma. This school encourages pupils 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 and pupils.

## Guidance

In order to achieve the above the following guidance is recommended:

- All staff are given basic awareness training about asthma and the use of inhalers
- All staff have a clear understanding of procedures to follow when a child has an asthma attack
- Reliever inhalers for pupils are accessible at all times. Pupils in Key Stage 2 and upwards should preferably carry their own inhalers with a spare inhaler kept by school
- The school maintains a register of pupils with asthma and each individual pupil with asthma has a self-management plan available in school
- School has a statement about the use of emergency salbutamol inhalers

## Management of Asthma in Schools

Early administration of the correct reliever treatment will cause the majority of attacks to be completely resolved.

As immediate access is vital to early administration of the inhaler it should be stored in an easily accessible area in school reception.

For each child with asthma parents/carers should provide a self-management plan along with their child's inhaler with the dose to take in the event of an attack. It is also their responsibility to inform school of any changes to their child's treatment

### **Parents should provide plan which school can photocopy.**

If a child does not carry their own inhaler a parent/carer should supply the inhaler in its **original packaging** in a labelled, clear, plastic bag. Inhalers will be sent home at the end of each term for cleaning and replacing if out of date.

School staff are not required to administer asthma medicines to pupils (except in an emergency), however first aid staff at this school are happy to do this

All school staff will let pupils take their own inhalers when necessary.

## Emergency Inhalers in School

School have, after consultation with the asthma policy group, decided not to provide emergency inhalers in school.

#### **In the event of an asthma attack:**

- Ensure that the reliever is taken immediately. Whenever possible allow medication to be taken where the attack occurred
- Stay calm and reassure the child, stay with the child until the attack is resolved
- Help the child to breathe by encouraging them to breathe as slowly and deeply as possible
- After the attack, and as soon as they feel better, the child can return to normal school activities
- The child's parent/carer should be informed of the attack

**All staff should be clear that when calling for an ambulance in an emergency situation that a Paramedic is requested**

#### **Implementing the Policy**

- Nominated first aid school staff should implement the policy
- **Consult with representatives from parents, governors, children, school health in the policy and set review dates**
- Asthma awareness training for all school staff should be carried out by the School Health team. Staff training should take place at least yearly, and more often in the event of a school trip or special circumstance.
- School should compile a register of children with asthma and keep with inhalers in reception.
- Parents/carers should be encouraged to keep the school and School Nursing teams informed of changes in the self-management plan.
- A copy of this policy will be sent to all parents of learners that a on the asthma register
- This policy will be reviewed on a bi-annual basis.

#### **Record Keeping**

At the beginning of each school year, or when a child joins the school, parents/carers are asked if their child has any medical conditions.

If a child has asthma school should request a self-management plan for that child.

School will ask parents/carers to ensure that their child's inhaler is:

- Correctly labelled
- In good working order
- In-date
- Cleaned at the end of each term
- A spacer is provided. ( this applies to children under 12years old)

It is the responsibility of the school to keep parents/carers up to date on any untoward occurrences with the child's condition and treatment and to record this for future reference eg if a child has had an attack or asks for an inhaler more often. This will be done by a telephone call from the administering first aider.

## **Exercise and Activity**

Taking part in sports, games and activities is an essential part of school life for all pupils. All teachers know which children in their class have asthma and all PE teachers at the school are aware of which pupils have asthma from the school's asthma register.

Pupils with asthma are encouraged to participate fully in all PE lessons. PE teachers will remind pupils whose asthma is triggered by exercise to take their reliever inhaler before the lesson, and to thoroughly warm up and down before and after the lesson. It is agreed with PE staff that each pupil's inhaler will be labelled and kept in a box at the site of the lesson. If a pupil needs to use their inhaler during a lesson they will be encouraged to do so.

Classroom teachers follow the same principles as described above for games and activities involving physical activity.

## **Visits, Outings or School Trips**

When pupils are taken out on school trips it is the responsibility of school staff to ensure that inhalers are taken along for each pupil with asthma. The same principles are used as for exercise where outdoors activities are involved.

A mobile phone should always be available for any emergency situations.



# CONSENT FORM: USE OF SALBUTAMOL INHALER Oastlers School

## Child showing symptoms of asthma / having asthma attack

1. I can confirm that my child has been diagnosed with asthma and has been prescribed an inhaler.
2. My child has a working, in-date inhaler, clearly labelled with their name, which they will leave in school for use in an emergency.
3. In the event of my child displaying symptoms of asthma, I consent for my child to use his salbutamol inhaler which is held by the school for such emergencies.
4. I confirm that my child can/cannot self-administer the inhaler.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name (print) \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship to Child \_\_\_\_\_

Child's name: \_\_\_\_\_ Form \_\_\_\_\_



