



Alsager Highfields Primary School

ASTHMA POLICY

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Prepared by Rachel Woollam
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Presented for approval to the IEB
5th October 2021
and subsequently approved and adopted on the same date

Chair of IEB Committee: Mr A Stancliffe

Signature:

Date: 5th October 2021

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Review Date: to be reviewed in Autumn Term 2024 or in the light of operating experience and/or changes in legislation.

ASTHMA POLICY

Asthma Policy for Pupils**Statement of Intent**

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 in the schools Asthma Register File. The Asthma Coordinator Mrs Revell will collate the register, contact the parents or named responsible carer, to ask them to complete a School Asthma Card (see attached) and 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

- Individual pupils' inhalers are kept in a named box in their classrooms.
- Children are allowed access to their inhaler 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.
- 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,



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- 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, the use of the school's emergency asthma inhaler can be used if authorised previously by parent or the school to contact parents to bring in inhaler or collect child.
- If the child is experiencing a severe attack call 999 without delay.

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 the member of staff administering the medication and the use of an inhaler will also be recorded in school 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.