



Asthma Policy

2022-2023

Asthma Documentation

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SUPPORTING PUPILS AT SCHOOL WITH MEDICAL CONDITIONS

Statutory guidance for governing bodies of maintained schools and proprietors of academies in England (April 2014)

**The child's role in managing their own medical needs.
(33)**

- Wherever possible, children should be allowed to ... access their medicines for self-medication quickly and easily. If it is not appropriate for a child to self-manage, then relevant staff should help to administer medicines.

**Managing medicines on school premises.
(35)**

- Medicines should only be administered at school when it would be detrimental to a child's health or school attendance not to do so.

**Unacceptable Practice.
(43)**

- To prevent children from easily accessing their inhalers and medication and administering their medication when and where necessary.

Guidance on the use of emergency salbutamol inhalers in school Department of Health (September 2014)

- Please refer to this document if your school has a salbutamol inhaler for use in emergencies or would like to acquire one.

ASTHMA POLICY

This school:

- Welcomes pupils with asthma and ensures that all feel accepted.
- Recognises asthma as a serious but controllable condition.
- Encourages pupils with asthma to achieve their potential in all aspects of school life.
- Recognises the need for immediate access to inhalers.
- Will commence a school asthma care plan for pupils with asthma in partnership with parents and maintain an asthma register.
- Will arrange training which will ensure that staff are aware of asthma and are able to manage an asthma attack - this will include giving emergency treatment.
- Will inform parents of asthma attacks and any treatment given.
- Does not assume responsibility for the routine treatment of asthma (preventative therapy) which remains the prerogative of the parent in conjunction with their GP.

RECORD KEEPING

On school entry pupils with asthma should be identified (see flow chart). The Asthma consent form provided should be completed. An Asthma care plan should be commenced.

An asthma register should be maintained (this should be accessible to staff and a copy kept with the school's emergency inhaler if they have one).

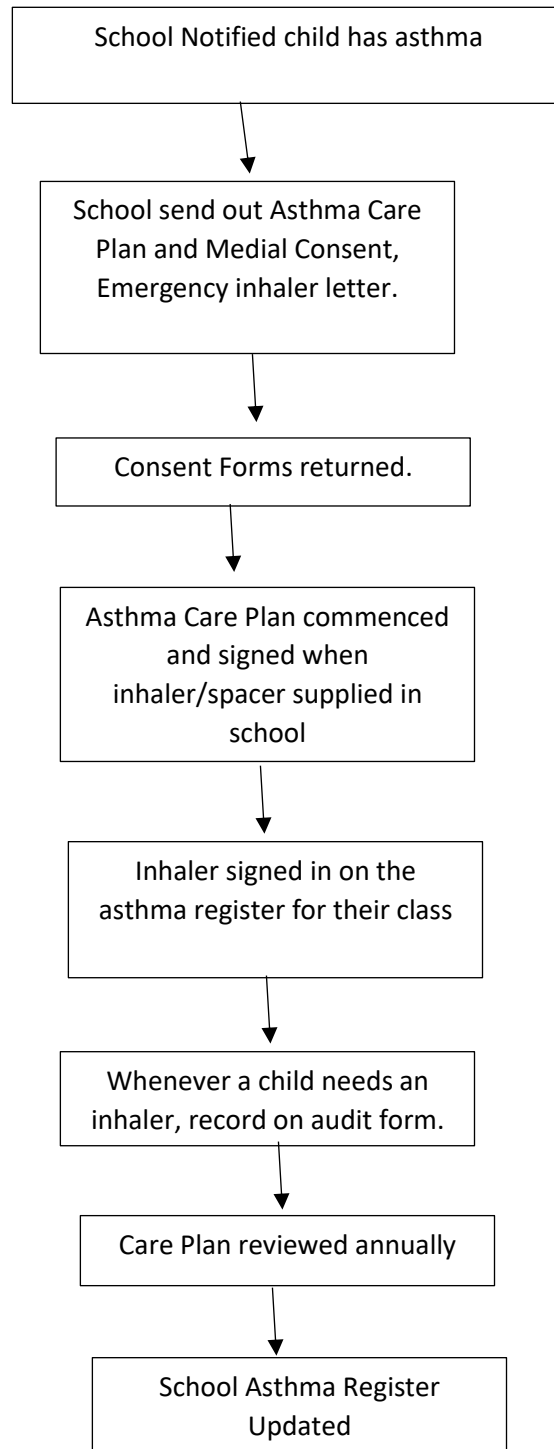
It may be helpful in static class rooms to have a list of pupils with asthma in or near the teacher's desk- particularly when supply teachers are employed.

A record of use of the pupil's inhaler/school's emergency inhaler must be kept on the log sheet provided, with all details completed.

A copy of the notification letter should be given to the parent/carer and also a copy kept on the pupil's record if the pupil has used the emergency inhaler.

If the same pupil has to use the emergency inhaler more than once a term they should be brought to the attention of the designated school leader. This may indicate a pupil is inadequately treated and therefore at risk.

Asthma Care Plan



Asthma Care Plan and Medication: Consent

If your child has been diagnosed with asthma and/or has been prescribed reliever therapy (Blue inhaler) please complete the first part of this form which gives your consent for school staff to give this if required.

In the event of my child displaying symptoms of asthma or prior to PE (if required), I consent for my child to receive their own reliever inhaler. If my child has asthma symptoms and their own inhaler is not available or is unusable, I consent for my child to receive salbutamol from an emergency inhaler if this is available in school.

Name of child:

Date of Birth:

School:

Name of Inhaler: Number of Puffs:

Signed Parent/Guardian _____ **Date** _____

Parent's Contact Number:

If your child has an asthma attack the school's emergency procedure will followed.

A copy of your child's school asthma care plan will be sent to you.

Please ensure that your child has a **SPARE reliever inhaler** and **spacer** kept in school and that your child's inhaler is within its **expiry date**.

School Asthma Care Plan

Name of child: Date of Birth:

School:

Identified Need To promote optimum health by maintaining good control of Asthma symptoms.	Action Plan School staff are able to identify when reliever inhaler is needed.	Step 1 Staff Training completed.	Date:
	Consent for medication in school (including school emergency salbutamol if available).	Step 2 To ensure appropriate consent forms are signed.	Consent form returned:
	Easy access to inhalers whilst in school	Step 3 Parents to supply inhaler and spacer.	
	To monitor and record inhaler use	Step 4 Parents to check expiry dates and change accordingly.	Inhaler expiry date:
		Step 5 School staff should complete audit form and inform parent when reliever inhaler used during school day	

Triggers: (if known)

Signatures: _____
 Parent/Carer School Lead Class Teacher Date

Review annually:

Guidelines RE- School Asthma Care plans

The School is advised to:

1. Commence a care plan for each child who has an inhaler (as highlighted by the return of the asthma proforma).
2. A copy of the care plan should be:

- i) Sent to parents/ carer
- ii) Kept in an accessible Asthma Folder

A list of pupils with care plans should be kept and reviewed annually.

This asthma register should also be kept with the school emergency salbutamol inhaler.

HOW TO RECOGNISE AN ASTHMA ATTACK

The signs of an asthma attack are:

- **Persistent cough (when at rest)**
- **A wheezing sound coming from the chest (when at rest)**
- **Difficulty breathing (the child could be breathing fast and with effort, using all accessory muscles in the upper body)**
- **Nasal flaring**
- **Unable to talk or complete sentences. Some children will go very quiet.**
- **May try to tell you that their chest ‘feels tight’ (younger children may express this as tummy ache)**

CALL AN AMBULANCE IMMEDIATELY AND COMMENCE THE ASTHMA ATTACK PROCEDURE WITHOUT DELAY IF THE CHILD:

- **Appears exhausted**
- **Has a blue/white tinge around lips**
- **Is going blue**
- **Has collapsed**

EMERGENCY PROCEDURE

WHAT TO DO IN THE EVENT OF AN ASTHMA ATTACK:

- **Keep calm and reassure the child**
- **Encourage the child to sit up and slightly forward**
- **Use the child's own inhaler – if not available, use the emergency inhaler**
- **Remain with the child while the inhaler and spacer are brought to them**
- **Immediately help the child to take two puffs of salbutamol via the spacer**
- **If there is no immediate improvement, continue to give two puffs at a time every two minutes, up to a maximum of 10 puffs**
- **Stay calm and reassure the child. Stay with the child until they feel better. The child can return to school activities when they feel better**
- **If the child does not feel better or you are worried at ANYTIME before you have reached 10 puffs, CALL 999 FOR AN AMBULANCE**
- **If an ambulance does not arrive in 10 minutes give another 10 puffs in the same way**

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 Sheepbridge Lane
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All are welcome, All are accepted, All are loved, All achieve.

Date

Dear parent/guardian of :

Your child has had problems with his/her breathing today which has required the use of their **own inhaler/school's emergency inhaler**. (delete as appropriate)

Since this may indicate your child's asthma is not well controlled at this time you are strongly advised to see your own doctor or practice nurse as soon as possible. If your child needs to use their reliever medication 3 times a week or more, seek a medical review.

Date	Time	Number of puffs	Where/Activity (e.g. classroom/PE)	Given By

Yours sincerely

If your child needed to use the school emergency inhaler would you please ensure they have their own labelled inhaler and spacer in school.

If your child is needing to use their reliever inhaler more than 4 hourly please seek an urgent medical review.

HOW TO USE A SPACER DEVICE

1. Remove the cap from the spray and shake gently five or six times. Prime the inhaler (spray 1 puffs) then re-shake.
2. Put the inhaler into the hole at the end of the spacer.
3. Put the mouthpiece into the child's mouth keeping their lips behind the ring. Make sure the child's lips are sealed around the mouthpiece.
4. Encourage the child to breathe in and out slowly and gently (i.e. normally). You may hear a clicking noise which is the valve opening and closing- this is normal. If the child cannot move the valve, tilt the inhaler end of the spacer to keep the valve open.
5. Continue with this breathing pattern and press the medication canister down once (**one puff**). Leave the spacer in the mouth while **ten** more breaths are taken. Remove the spacer from the child's mouth.
6. Repeat as above if more puffs are required
7. Shake the inhaler after every **2** puffs.
8. Remove the spacer from the child's mouth.

School Spacer

After use, the spacer should be washed in warm soapy water, not rinsed, and then left to dry naturally. You should not dry it with paper or tea towels.

In addition the spacer should be washed at the end of each term and inspected for signs of wears, cracks etc.

To avoid possible risk of cross-infection, if the school's plastic spacer is used with the school's emergency inhaler, it should **not** be reused and can be given to the child for further personal use. Please ensure school has a spare spacer to replace as necessary.

Guidance on the use of emergency salbutamol inhalers in schools DoH(Sept 2014) provides information on supply, storage and care of inhaler.

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Dear Parent/Carer

Name of child:
D.O.B.:

We are currently reviewing your child's School Asthma Care Plan. Would you kindly return the form so that the care plan can be updated.

1. My child still requires a reliever inhaler in school.
Name of inhaler: Number of Puffs:

2. My child no longer requires a reliever inhaler or care plan in school

Please tick the appropriate box and return to school.

Parent / Carer Signature

Date

If you have any queries about your child's asthma care plan please contact the school lead. Please ensure that your child has a **spare reliever inhaler and spacer in school** and it is within its **expiry date**.

Yours sincerely

Mrs P Cousins
Headteacher

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Date:

Dear Parent/Carer

I am informing you that your child's school asthma reliever inhaler has expired or is due to expire.

Would you kindly bring a new reliever inhaler into school as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely

Mrs P Cousins
Headteacher

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Date:

**CONSENT FORM:
USE OF EMERGENCY SALBUTAMOL INHALER**

Child showing symptoms of asthma / having asthma attack

1. I can confirm that my child has been diagnosed with asthma / has been prescribed an inhaler [delete as appropriate].
2. My child has a working, in-date inhaler, clearly labelled with their name, which they will bring with them to school every day.
3. In the event of my child displaying symptoms of asthma, and if their inhaler is not available or is unusable, I consent for my child to receive salbutamol from an emergency inhaler held by the school for such emergencies.

Signed:

Date:

Name (print).....

Child's name:

Class:

Parent's address and contact details:

.....
.....
.....

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