



St Edward's Church of England
Primary School

Asthma Policy

October 2016



ASTHMA POLICY

1. Statement of principles for the Asthma Policy

- 1.1 This policy has been written with advice from the Department for Education, National Asthma Campaign, the local education authority, the school health service, parents, the governing body and pupils.
- 1.2 This school recognises that asthma is an important condition affecting many school children (1:7 nationally) and positively welcomes all pupils with asthma.
- 1.3 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, new staff and regular helpers are also made aware of the policy. All staff who come into regular contact with children with asthma are provided with training on asthma from the school nurse who has had asthma training. Training is updated annually.

2. Medication

- 2.1 Immediate access to the blue reliever inhalers is vital:
 - The reliever inhalers of regular users are kept in the classroom in a labelled container and are easily accessible to the children. When the class inhaler becomes empty it will be returned to the parent with an accompanying letter requesting a replacement within 7 days.
- 2.2 Duplicate inhalers are kept in the medical room. All inhalers must be labelled with the child's name by the parent and be within the expiry date. School staff are not required to administer medication to children except in an emergency, however many of our staff are happy to do this. The local authority, when acting in accordance with this policy, insures school staff who agree to support children whilst taking their asthma medication.
- 2.3 All medication is sent home at the end of the summer term.

All school staff allow and assist children to take their own medication when they need to.

3. Record Keeping

Parents of children with inhalers in school are required to complete a School Asthma Record (appendix 1) at the beginning of each school year or when a child with an inhaler joins the school. These are sent to parents on an annual basis to update. If medication changes in between times, parents are asked to inform the school. Parents are always welcome to discuss their child's asthma with the school nurse at the monthly drop-in session or via Romford clinic.

4. PE/School Visits

Taking part in sports and school visits is an essential part of school life:

- the swimming instructor is aware of which children have asthma as she has a copy of each class medical list;
- 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;
- the inhalers held in the classroom are labelled and kept in a box at the site of the lesson. If a child needs to use their inhaler during the lesson they are encouraged to do so. In the case of swimming or PE, the class inhaler box is taken with the class to the appropriate venue;
- on School visits, the class teacher or another responsible adult takes the box containing inhalers.

5. The school environment

The school does all that it can to ensure the school environment is favourable to children with asthma. As far as possible the school does not use chemicals in science and art lessons that are potential triggers for children with asthma. The school recognises that it is possible for children with asthma to have special educational needs because of asthma. If appropriate the teacher will talk to the school nurse, special educational needs co-ordinator or parent about the situation.

6. Asthma attacks

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

6.1 During the attack

- **Ensure that the reliever inhaler is taken immediately;**
- **If after five minutes the reliever has no effect encourage the child to take the reliever again;**

- **stay calm and reassure the child, who should be in an upright position, ideally sat straddling a chair;**
- **help the child to breathe by ensuring tight clothing is loosened.**

6.2 After the attack

Minor attacks should not interrupt a child's involvement in school. When they feel better, they can return to school activities. If they do not experience relief and do not fit the emergency criteria below, parents should be contacted.

6.3 Emergency procedure

The Emergency procedure should be followed 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.

DIAL 999 or 112 - CALL FOR AN AMBULANCE and contact the parent.

Continue to give reliever medicine (one puff every few minutes) until the child improves or you are advised otherwise by ambulance control

Approved by Leadership and Management Committee:

Chair of Leadership and Management Committee

Date

Head Teacher

Date

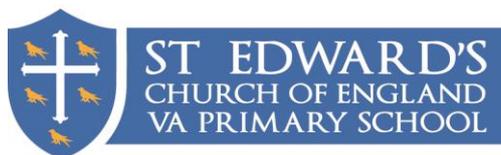
Approved by Full Governing Body:

Chair of Governors

Date

Head Teacher

Date



School Asthma Record

To be filled in by the parent / carer

Child's Name _____

Date of Birth _____

Address _____

Parent /Carers Name _____

Home Telephone Number _____

Work Telephone Number _____

Mobile Telephone Number _____

Doctor / Nurse's Number _____

Doctor / Nurse's Telephone Number _____

This card is to be kept in school. **Review the card at least once a year and remember to update it if your child's treatment changes throughout the year.** Medicines should be clearly labelled with your child's name and will be kept in agreement with our school policy.

Signs that can indicate my child is having an attack

Does your child tell you when he/she needs medicine?

Yes No

Does your child need help taking his / her medicine?

Yes No

What makes your child's asthma worse?

Does your child need to take medication prior to exercise or play?

Yes No

If yes, please describe how much and when

Reliever Treatment

For wheeze, cough, shortness of breath or sudden tightness in the chest, please give my child the medicine below. After treatment and as soon as they feel well enough they are able to return to normal activity.

Medicine	Parent / Carer's Signature
_____	_____

Does your child need to take any other medication during school?

Yes No

Medicine	How much and when
_____	_____

Expiry dates of Medicine checked

Medicine	Date	Parent / Carer's Signature
_____	_____	_____

Parent / Carer's Signature

Date _____