



Cherry Orchard Primary School

Asthma Policy



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Policy Statement

- Cherry Orchard Primary School welcomes pupils with asthma and recognizes their needs.
- We expect and encourage parents/carers to give appropriate information to the school regarding their child's asthma and to provide a prescribed inhaler and spacer device (if required).
- The school recognizes that pupils need to have immediate access to their reliever inhaler.
- We will encourage and help children who have asthma to participate fully in all aspects of school life.
- The school will keep and maintain an emergency asthma kit on both sites.
- Teachers will ensure that the class inhaler bag is taken on emergency evacuation of the classroom (e.g. fire drill).

On Admission to School

- All parents/carers will be asked to complete an admission form giving full details of their child's asthma, regular medication, emergency contact numbers, family GP and any relevant hospital details.
- Parents of a child with asthma should complete a school asthma card.
- **Every child with an asthma diagnosis** must have a blue reliever inhaler available in school and a spacer device.
- Permission will also be sought to administer emergency medication if necessary.

Storage & Disposal of Medication

- All inhaler devices and spacers need to be clearly labeled with the child's name. Spacers can be put into a clear plastic bag for hygiene purposes.
- Key Stage 1
 - a) Inhalers and spacers will be kept in the classroom under the supervision of the class teacher in clearly labeled storage.

- b) Inhalers should be easily accessible to the child.
- Key Stage 2
 - a) Pupils at this age are encouraged to become self-managing by the end of Year 6 by carrying their own inhaler and using it when needed.
 - b) Clearly labeled storage will be made available for inhalers and spacers.
 - c) If there are any concerns about the child's technique they should be referred to the School Nurse.
- Most children will not need to use their blue inhaler on a daily basis, therefore, if the child has experienced symptoms and has needed to use their inhaler, parents/carers will be informed.
- Parents/carers will always be informed if their child has an asthma attack.
- If pupils leave the premises for any activity they must have their reliever inhalers with them.
- Parents/carers need to check all inhalers/spacer devices termly or regularly, confirming that the inhalers are in date and are full of medication.

Exercise and Activity

- Pupils with asthma are encouraged to participate in PE lessons.
- Some pupils with asthma may need to use their reliever inhaler before exercising.
- Reliever inhalers must be readily available at all times.

Asthma Attack

- It is important that all staff know how to deal with a child experiencing an asthma attack.
- In the event of an asthma attack school staff should follow the procedure outlined in 'The Asthma Attack Flowchart'. This flowchart is visibly displayed in staff rooms/first aid areas/halls and classrooms.

Emergency Asthma Kits

- Emergency asthma kits are available in both key stage buildings stored in each staffroom (2 in each). An emergency asthma kit is also available in the main office.
- An emergency kit will be taken on all outdoor activities.

- A list will be kept of all children that are allowed to receive medication from the emergency kit, a copy of which will be kept in each kit along with guidelines on how to administer the medication. Parents will be informed of its use.
- Spacers will only be used once. The used spacer can be given to the child. The Pastoral Team will be informed as soon as possible of its use so that it can be replaced.
- All kits will contain 2 spacers.

Training

All staff receive asthma awareness training and updates regularly so that they recognize and know how to deal with a child having an asthma attack, when and how to call an ambulance and what to do whilst waiting for the ambulance to arrive.

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Appendix 1



**CONSENT FORM:
USE OF EMERGENCY SALBUTAMOL INHALER
Cherry Orchard Primary School**



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:

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

Telephone:

E-mail:

Appendix 2



LETTER TO INFORM PARENTS OF EMERGENCY SALBUTAMOL INHALER USE



Child's name:

Class: Date:

Dear.....,

This letter is to formally notify you that.....has had problems with his / her breathing today. This happened when.....

A member of staff helped them to use their asthma inhaler.

[Delete as appropriate]

They did not have their own asthma inhaler with them, so a member of staff helped them to use the emergency asthma inhaler containing salbutamol. They were given the medication as follows:

Number of puffs							
Time given							

Their own asthma inhaler was not working, so a member of staff helped them to use the emergency asthma inhaler containing salbutamol. They were given the medication as follows:

Number of puffs							
Time given							

Although they soon felt better, we would strongly advise that you have your child seen by your own doctor as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

Miss A. Taylor

Appendix 3

Other documents

Guidance on the use of emergency salbutamol inhalers in school, March 2015, Department of Health.

Supporting pupils at school with medical conditions, September 2014, Department of Education

Medication Guidance for Schools, March 2010, Birmingham Health Education Service

www.asthma.org.uk