



Asthma Policy

This policy is an addendum to the 'Administration of Medicines' in Wimboldsley Primary School policy and this policy should be referred to in conjunction with this Asthma Policy.

The school recognises that asthma is a widespread, serious but controllable condition affecting pupils at this school. This school positively welcomes all pupils with asthma. This school encourages pupils with asthma to achieve their full potential in all aspects of school life by having a clear policy that is understood by school staff, pupils and their parents/carers. Supply teachers and new staff are also made aware of the policy.

Aims and Objectives

Our administration of asthma medicine requirements will be achieved by:

- Establishing principles for safe practice in the management and administration of asthma medication.
- Providing clear guidance to all staff on the administration of asthma medicines.
- Ensuring that there are sufficient numbers of appropriately trained staff to manage and administer asthma medicines.
- Ensuring that there are suitable and sufficient facilities and equipment available to aid the safe management and administration of asthma medicines
- Ensuring the policy is reviewed periodically or following any significant change which may affect the management or administration of asthma medicines.

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 on the Wimboldsley Primary School Register (staff room notice board). The parents of the child will be contacted to complete an 'Asthma Plan' (see appendix 1).

Access to Inhalers

- Individual pupils' inhalers are kept in their classrooms or the school office.
- Children are allowed access to their inhalers 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,
 - is unable to talk in sentences,
 - has blue lips
 - or you have any doubts

Then the following 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.

Training

- Head teachers are responsible for assessing and arranging for training needs to be met.

Home/School Liaison

- Parents are asked to complete and update their child's 'Asthma Plan' 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 use of a slip (see appendix 1), and the use of an inhaler will also be recorded in school, in the Asthma register.

Policy reviewed September 2017

Policy to be reviewed and updated annually



My Asthma Plan



Your asthma plan tells you when to take your asthma medicines.

Name:



And what to do when your asthma gets worse.

1. My asthma medicines

- My best peak flow is
- My preventer inhaler is called and its colour is
- I take puff/s of my preventer inhaler in the morning and puff/s at night. I do this every day even if I feel well.

Other asthma medicines I take every day:

- My reliever inhaler is called and its colour is . I take puff/s of my (colour) reliever inhaler when I wheeze or cough, my chest hurts or it's hard to breathe.

Does playing, running or doing PE normally make it hard to breathe?



If yes I take puff/s of my (colour) reliever inhaler beforehand.

2. When my asthma gets worse

I will know my asthma is getting worse if:

- I have a cough, wheeze, it is hard to breathe or my chest hurts, or
- I am waking up at night because of my asthma, or
- I am taking my reliever inhaler every day, or
- My peak flow is less than

When this happens: I keep taking my preventer medicines as normal.

And also take puff/s of my (colour) reliever inhaler every four hours.

If I am not getting any better I should see my doctor or asthma nurse today.



What asthma medicines do you take every day?



What should you do when your asthma gets worse?

Remember to take your inhaler with a spacer if you have one



3. What to do when I have an asthma attack

I am having an asthma attack if:

- My (colour) reliever inhaler is not helping, or
- I can't talk or walk easily, or
- I am breathing hard and fast, or
- I am coughing or wheezing a lot, or
- My peak flow is below

When this happens: I should take puffs of my (colour) reliever inhaler every two minutes (up to ten puffs) until I feel better.

I am feeling better, but I don't want this to happen again so I need to see my doctor or asthma nurse today.



I still don't feel better and I have taken ten puffs. Now I need to call 999 straight away. If I am waiting longer than 15 minutes for an ambulance I should take another puffs of my (colour) reliever inhaler every two minutes (up to ten puffs).



My asthma triggers:

(Write down things that make your asthma worse so you can stay away from them.)

I need to see my asthma nurse every six months at least

Date I got my asthma plan:

My next asthma review:

Doctor's/asthma nurse contact details:

Where can I find out more?

Asthma UK is dedicated to improving the health and well-being of the 5.4 million people in the UK with asthma including 1.1 million children.

Asthma UK Adviceline
Ask an asthma nurse specialist
0800 121 62 44
asthma.org.uk/adviceline

Asthma UK website
Read the latest independent advice and news on asthma
asthma.org.uk
kickasthma.org.uk

Asthma UK
Summit House, 70 Wilson Street,
London EC2A 2DB
T 020 7786 4900
F 020 7256 6075

Asthma UK Northern Ireland
Ground floor, Unit 2 College House,
City Link Business Park, Durham Street,
Belfast BT12 4HQ
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Asthma UK Cymru
Eastgate House, 35-43 Newport Road,
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Edinburgh EH2 1JE
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