

Asthma policy

Costock C of E Primary



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1. Aims

- The School recognises that asthma is an important condition affecting many school children and welcomes all pupils with asthma
- Ensures that children with asthma participate fully in all aspects of school life including PE
- Recognises that immediate access to reliever inhalers is vital
- Keeps records of children with asthma and the medication they take
- Ensures all staff who come into contact with children with asthma know what to do in the event of an asthma attack
- Will work in partnership with all interested parties including all school staff, parents, governors, doctors and nurses, and children to ensure the policy is implemented and maintained successfully

This school recognises that asthma is an important condition affecting many school children and positively welcomes all pupils with asthma. We encourage children with asthma to achieve their potential in all aspects of school life.

2. Medication

The reliever inhalers of children are kept in their individual classroom and are readily accessible. Children should always tell their class teacher or other member of staff when they have had occasion to use their inhaler. Records are kept each time an inhaler is used.

All inhalers must be labelled with the child's name by the parent. School staff are not required to administer medication to children except in an emergency. **All school staff will let children take their own medication when needed.**

3. Record Keeping

At the beginning of each school year, or when a child joins the school, parents are asked to inform the school if their child is asthmatic. All parents of children with asthma are required to complete an Asthma Information

Form Appendix 1 and return it to the school. From this information the school keeps its asthma register. If any changes are made to a child's medication it is the responsibility of the parents or carer to inform the school.

Asthma inhalers for each child are regularly checked for expiry dates by our designated first aider. Each child's inhaler is kept in their own classroom in a named wallet containing their individual medication and asthma card.

All staff members are responsible for acquainting themselves with the triggers of a possible attack (allergies, colds, cough, cold weather) for each individual child in their care. All this information is found in their medication wallet along with their medication.

4. PE

Taking part in sports is an essential part of school life. Teachers are aware of which children have asthma from the asthma register. 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. If a child needs to use their inhaler during the lesson, they will be encouraged to do so. Records are kept every time a child uses their inhaler.

5. School Trips and Outside Activities

When a child is away from the school classroom on a school trip, club, outside sport or PE, their inhaler should accompany them and be made available to them at all times.

6. 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 art lessons that are potential triggers for children with asthma. The school is a non-smoking site.

7. When a Child is falling behind in lessons

If a child is missing a lot of time from school because of asthma or is tired in class because of disturbed sleep and falling behind in class, the class teacher will initially talk to the parents. If appropriate the teacher will then talk to the school nursing team and special educational needs coordinator about the situation and an Individual Healthcare Plan (IHP) in line with our Supporting pupils with medical conditions policy. The school recognises that it is possible for children with asthma to have special education needs because of asthma.

8. Asthma Attacks

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

1. Ensure that the reliever inhaler is taken immediately.
2. Stay calm and reassure the child.
3. Help the child to breathe by ensuring tight clothing is loosened.

After the attack

Minor attacks should not interrupt a child's involvement in school. When they feel better they can return to school activities.

The child's parents must be informed about the attack.

9. Emergency procedure

If the pupil does not feel better or you are worried **at any time** before reaching 10 puffs from the inhaler, **call 999 for an ambulance**.

If the ambulance has not arrived after 10 minutes, give an additional 10 puffs as detailed above.

In the event of an ambulance being called, the pupil's parents or carers should always be contacted.

In the event of a pupil being taken to hospital by ambulance, they should always be accompanied by a member of staff until a parent or carer is present.

10. Links to other policies

This policy links to the following policies:

- Accessibility plan
- Complaints
- Equality information and objectives
- Health and safety
- Safeguarding
- Special educational needs information report and policy
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions policy

Appendix 1



Costock C of E Primary School Asthma Information Form

Please complete the questions below so that the school has the necessary information about your child's asthma.

Child's name:	
Date of birth:	
Address:	
Parent /carer's name:	
Daytime phone number:	
Name and phone number of GP:	

Does your child need an inhaler in school? Yes/No

Please provide information on your child's current treatment:

Name/type of inhaler	
Dosage / frequency	
Is a spacer required?	
Does your child tell you when he/she needs the inhaler?	
What are your child's triggers things that make their asthma worse?	
Does your child need to take any other asthma medicines while in the school's care? If so, please provide details.	

Inhalers must be clearly labelled with your child's name, be supplied in the original packaging from the pharmacy and must be replaced before they reach their expiry date. Please remember to inform the school if there are any changes in your child's treatment or condition.

We suggest that spacers need to be taken home every half term to be cleaned. Thank you.

I agree to ensure that my child has in-date inhalers and a spacer (where required) in school at all times:

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Parental Update (only to be completed if your child no longer has asthma)

My child _____ no longer has asthma and therefore no longer requires an inhaler in school or on school visits.

Signed: _____ Date: _____