



## **Flamborough CE (VC) Primary School- Asthma Policy**

Date Policy Becomes Effective: October 2021

Review Date: October 2023

Person Responsible for Implementation and Monitoring: Head teacher

### **Introduction**

This policy should be read in conjunction with the DFE Managing Medicines in Schools document.

### **Policy Statement**

This policy is based on guidance from Asthma UK and local healthcare and educational professionals

This school recognises that asthma and recurrent wheezing are important conditions affecting increasing numbers of school children. This school welcomes pupils with asthma

Flamborough School encourages all pupils to achieve their full potential in all aspects of life by having a clear policy and procedures that are understood by school staff, parents/ carers and pupils.

Developing and implementing this asthma policy is important in our school..

### **Training**

Staff should be given the opportunity to receive training on signs and symptoms of asthma and how to treat it from the school nursing team or specialist first aider. Where possible, new staff will receive appropriate training on their appointment.

### **Indemnity**

School staff are not required to administer asthma medication to pupils except in an emergency. However many staff may be happy to give routine medication on the advice of an appropriate healthcare professional. School staff who agree to administer medication are insured by relevant authorities when acting in agreement with this policy.

All school staff will allow pupils immediate access to their asthma medication when they need it.

### **Record Keeping**

- At the beginning of each school year or when a child joins the school, parents/carers are asked if their child has any medical conditions, including asthma, on their enrolment form.
- All parents/carers of children with asthma are consequently asked to complete an asthma care plan, giving details of the condition and the treatment required.
- From this information the school keeps its asthma register, which is available to all school staff. School Asthma Forms are then sent to parents/carers of children with asthma on an annual basis to update. Parents/carers are also asked to update or exchange the form for a new one if their child's medicines change, or the dosage/frequency changes during the year.



### **The Asthma Attack**

*The following guidelines will be used if a known asthmatic pupil becomes breathless, wheezy or coughs continually.*

- 1 Keep calm. It's treatable.*
- 2 Pupil to sit in a position they find comfortable. Lying down is not necessary.*
- 3 Allow pupil to take their usual reliever, giving help, if necessary. The reliever inhaler can be repeated after 2 minutes if no improvement.*
- 4 If there is no relief of symptoms after second dose ring parents.*
- 5 If parent cannot be contacted, call for an ambulance or First Responders.*
- 6 In severe cases, (relief inhaler has no effect at all) call an ambulance to take the pupil to nearest hospital casualty department. Inform parents.*

*In the case of a suspected first attack the pupil should be kept calm, an ambulance should be called and parents informed.*

**If the child does not have inhaler or it is out of date, staff will only use an inhaler prescribed for another child if instructed to by medical staff.**

### **Residential stays/school visits/curriculum activities**

No child will be denied the opportunity to take part in school trips or residential visits because of asthma, unless advised by their GP or consultant

Risk assessments are carried out prior to any visits. Where there is the potential of children coming into contact with animals (e.g. farm visits) parents/carers will be made aware of this is the "visit" letter. They should contact school if any extra precautions need to be taken or, indeed, if they would prefer their child not to take part in the visit.

The pupil's reliever inhaler will be readily available to them throughout the trip, being carried by the child themselves or a supervising adult.  
For residential visits, staff will be advised in the regular controller treatments, as well as emergency management. It is the responsibility of the parent/ carer to provide written information about all asthma medication required by their child for the duration of the trip. Parents must be responsible for ensuring an adequate supply of medication with the pharmacist instructions is provided.  
Group leaders will have appropriate contact numbers with them.

### **Confidentiality**

All school staff should treat medical information confidentially.  
The school will agree with the pupil where appropriate or otherwise the parent, who else should have access to medical information.