



CAVERSHAM PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL

Asthma Policy

Statement of Intent

Caversham Park Primary School recognises that asthma is a widespread, serious but controllable condition. The school welcomes all children and staff members who have asthma. We ensure that children with asthma can and do participate fully in all aspects of school life, including art lessons, PE, science, after school clubs or recreational visits.

This policy will help pupils with the management of their asthma while they are at School and has been written with advice from the Department for Education and Skills, Asthma UK, the local authority, local healthcare professionals, the school health service, parents/carers and the governing body.

This policy supplements the “Supporting pupils in School with Medical Conditions” and the “Health and Safety” policies.

Home/School Liaison

- Parents/carers are asked to complete the asthma plan (see Appendix 1) on admission or when first diagnosed with asthma. They are also required to notify the school of any changes.
- Each inhaler provided by parents/carers must be within date, named and prescribed with an appropriate pharmacy label.
- Parents/carers will be informed if an inhaler is used during the day by use of a slip (see Appendix 2), and the use of the inhaler will be recorded on a log sheet in the class medical folder.

Indemnity

Staff who agree to administer medication will be provided with indemnity.

School staff are not required to administer asthma medicines to children (except in an emergency) if they do not wish to do so.

Staff

All staff will:-

- support the implementation of the Asthma Policy.
- encourage children with asthma to participate fully in PE lessons, after school activities and Recreational visits.
- know which children they come in contact with have asthma.
- help all children in the school understand asthma as a medical condition.
- know what to do in the event of an asthma attack.
- record any treatment given in the asthma log.
- inform parents/carers of any treatment given on an asthma slip (see appendix 2)
- initially talk to the parents/carers if a child is missing a lot of school or is always tired because of their asthma, to work out how to prevent their child from falling behind. If appropriate the teacher will then talk to the school Inclusion Manager.

Classroom Staff will check the expiry date of inhalers kept in school on a termly basis and advise the school office so that the parents can be notified.

Access to Inhalers

- All inhalers for children are kept in named pouches in the green grab bags in class.
- Children are allowed access to their inhalers at any time in the school day, should they feel the need to use it.
- Inhalers will accompany children when taking part in PE, off site activities, after school clubs or residential trips.
- At lunch time the lunchtime assistants must deal with asthma issues. Any inhalers needed will be accessible.
- A list of children with asthma is kept in the medical file, as well as the school office and the staffroom.
- Inhalers will be taken with the class in the event of a fire drill.

School Environment & Training

Where possible the school will:

- avoid feathery or furry school pets or advise parents/carers if there are animals due to visit the school.
- avoid pollen producing plants in the classroom and outside areas.
- avoid the use of chemicals in science and art lessons that are potential asthma triggers.

The school has a no smoking policy and all staff and contractors are expected to comply with this policy when on site.

The Headteacher is responsible for arranging annual Asthma refresher training for the staff.

All new staff, including work experience students and supply staff, have access to the Asthma Policy.

Managing Asthma Attacks

For mild attacks children should take their usual reliever inhaler, as per instructions.

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 the staff member has any doubts

then the action required is:

- One adult to stay with child and use reliever inhaler (via spacer if required) while another dials 999 for an ambulance
- Continue to give relief inhaler while help arrives as per instructions on inhaler
- Inform parents/carers of the situation and action taken
- The incident will then be recorded in the Asthma register in the school office.

The Headteacher and Governing body will review this policy when necessary.

Policy Date	Review Date
November 2025	November 2028

ASTHMA ACTION PLAN

CHILD'S NAME _____ SCHOOL _____
 TYPE OF INHALER _____
 NHS NUMBER _____ DATE OF BIRTH __/__/__

PHOTO

CHILD'S TRIGGERS

.....

PARENTAL CONSENTS (tick boxes)

☐ I consent to the administration of the prescribed inhaler by members of staff and will notify school if there are any changes to my child's medication and personal details. I will provide my child's inhaler and spacer in school and will ensure that they are in date.

☐ I consent to school staff administering the emergency school inhaler should my child's personal inhaler be unavailable

☐ I consent for this plan to be on display in school and I will notify the school of any changes for review

Signature of Parent/Carer:

Date:

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

1. Name.....

Number.....

2. Name.....

Number.....

MANAGING AN ASTHMA ATTACK. IN THE EVENT OF ANY SYMPTOMS:

- WHEEZE
- TIGHT or SORE CHEST
- COUGH
- SHORTNESS OF BREATH
- Administer reliever inhaler (usually blue) via Spacer
- Give **1 puff of reliever every 30-60 seconds** (max 10 puffs)
- If reliever is needed more than 4-hourly, medical advice/attention should be sought and parents contacted.

REMEMBER TO SHAKE INHALER BEFORE USE

IF NO IMPROVEMENT

SIGNS OF AN ACUTE ASTHMA ATTACK

If the child's reliever inhaler (usually blue) + spacer are **not** helping and/or the child presents with **ANY** of the following:

- They can't talk or walk easily
- They are breathing hard and fast
- Their lips turn blue
- They are coughing or wheezing incessantly

During this time the child should:

- Sit up – DO NOT LIE DOWN
- Be encouraged to stay calm
- Be accompanied by a member of staff
- Give 1 puff of reliever every 30-60 seconds (maximum 10 puffs)

IF NO IMPROVEMENT AFTER 10 PUFFS OR ANY CONCERNS

CALL 999 IMMEDIATELY

- CONTINUE TO ADMINISTER THE INHALER IN CYCLES OF 10 PUFFS AS ADVISED ABOVE EVERY 15 MINUTES UNTIL THE AMBULANCE ARRIVES
- contact parent/carer and accompany child in the ambulance until parent/carer arrives

For exercise induced asthma (complete only if asthma brought on by exercise)

- Take _____ puffs of the reliever inhaler (usually blue) via spacer 10-15 minutes BEFORE physical exercise

Appendix 2



Together we enjoy,
create and achieve

Caversham Park Primary School

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website: www.cavershamparkprimaryschool.co.uk

Date:

Dear Parent/Carer

Your child has used their inhaler today

Child's full name		Year	
Inhaler used		Time	
Number of puffs			
Reason / Information			
Person treating child			