

Uplands Junior School
Asthma Policy
November 2020
Review: November 2022

1.0 Policy Statement

To provide a framework for the management of asthma in schools.
This policy has been written with the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child: article 3 (best interest of the child), article 6 (life, survival and development) and article 24 (health and health services).

2.0 Definitions

'Asthma is a physical condition in which the air passages in the lungs become narrowed, making it difficult to breath.' The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust

3.0 Accountabilities

The School Nurse:

- Supply school with an emergency inhaler and Aerochamber/Volumatic spacer device.
- This will be documented using the collection form.
- The school nurse will replace the emergency inhaler close to the inhaler expiry date.
- The school nurse will offer asthma training to all staff in schools on an annual basis.
- The school nurse will audit the asthma process in school.
- The school nurse will receive a bi-annual update on developments in asthma.
- The school nurse will assist in the completion of health care plans where appropriate.

The current school nurse is: Mrs Kam Dhillon.

Uplands Junior school:

- Recognise the needs of pupils with asthma.
- Recognises that immediate access to the pupil's inhalers is vital.
- Will encourage and help children with asthma to participate fully in all aspects of school life.

- Will do all it can to ensure that the school environment is favourable to all children with asthma.
- Will encourage all children with asthma to have their own inhaler in school with a spacer. In exceptional circumstances the child may have access to the emergency inhaler following this guidance and procedure.

In order to achieve this Uplands staff and children:

- Are given basic awareness about asthma and the use of inhalers on an annual basis.
- Have a clear understanding of what procedures to follow if a child has an asthma attack.
- All pupils with asthma have clear understanding of what to do when they have an asthma attack.
- General inhalers for pupils in KS2 are carried by the individual pupil and kept in their named draw in their classroom.
- The school maintains a register of pupils with asthma and individual health care plans (where appropriate) with emergency treatment detailed.

Training recommendations:

- All school staff receive an annual update on asthma awareness and inhaler technique.
- New school staff receive basic awareness as soon as possible after appointment.
- Additional asthma training can be delivered to school staff by school nurses on request.

4.0 Policy Detail

Management of Asthma in school:

- Early administration of the correct reliever treatment will cause the majority of attacks to resolve completely.
- Pupils should generally be responsible for their own treatment with support as required.
- When this is not the case, parents/carers need to supply a labelled inhaler, and if needed an Aerochamber/Volumatic spacer device. This is to be stored according to the school policy.

- Parents/carers need to provide the school with written details of a child's medication and treatment to be taken in the event of an attack.
- Information is to be dated and signed by the parent/carer.
Parent/carers must notify school in the event of any changes.
- One relief aerosol inhaler and spacer will be supplied by school. This is intended to be an emergency, spare, or back up inhaler, to be used for an asthmatic child where there isn't access to his/her own relief inhaler.
- One relief aerosol inhaler and spacer will also be supplied by school for any off-site visits or residential activities.

5.0

Guidance on the use of emergency salbutamol inhalers in school.

- From 1st October 2014 the Human Medicines (Amendment No2) Regulations will allow school to buy salbutamol inhalers, without prescription, for use in emergencies.
- **The emergency inhaler should only be used by children, for whom written parental consent for use of the emergency inhaler has been given, who have either been diagnosed with asthma and prescribed an inhaler, or who have been prescribed an inhaler as reliever medication.**
- The inhaler can be used if the pupil's prescribed inhaler is not available (for example, because it is broken, or empty).

Appendix 1 - Management of asthma in school form

Appendix 2 - Use of the emergency inhaler form

Appendix 1



Additional Planning for a Pupil with Asthma

Please send in a copy of your child's asthma action plan with this form

This pupil has asthma

Name

Date of Birth

Class/Year Group

Photo

See General Healthcare Plan for contact details.

In case of a severe attack of Asthma

Typical symptoms for this pupil (completed with parents/carers)

Medication required and treatment procedure:

Quantity needed:

Usual response to medication (include approximate response times)

Procedure in case of failure to respond to medication

Signed

Date**PTO**

Appendix 2

Emergency Reliever Inhaler

In the event of my child, **PRINT CHILD'S NAME**..... having 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.

(Print Name) **Parent / Carer**

Signed **Parent / Carer**

Date

The Royal Wolverhampton - NHS Trust - Asthma Policy - March 2014
Guidance on the use of emergency salbutamol inhalers in schools - September 2014