



## **Shotton Hall Primary School**

Working together to

**SHINE**

**Successful, Happy, Inspired and Nurtured towards Excellence**

# **Asthma Policy 22-23**

**Reviewed March 2022**

**Next Review March 2023**

**Ratified 7.4.22**

**Signed A. M Boyd**

**C. Barclay COG**

As a school we

- Recognise that asthma is a condition affecting many children.
- Welcome all pupils with asthma into the school community.
- Encourage them to achieve their full potential in all aspects of school life.
- Help and encourages them to manage their own condition effectively and safely.
- Ensure they have the confidence to ask for support in school when needed.

The school believes this policy will:

- Promote increased attendance, participation and achievement for pupils with asthma.
- Enable staff to understand and assist pupils with asthma when necessary and appropriate.

Training

- All children are listed on the Asthma register.
- All staff are made aware of where and when to ask for help in dealing with medical conditions.

Using inhalers and responsibilities

- The school understands that immediate access to inhalers is vital.
- Children should have easy access to their inhalers which are clearly labelled with their name.
- It is the parents/carers responsibility to ensure that a child has a labelled inhaler with the issue date and child's name on.
- Inhalers will be checked and parents/carers will be asked to renew where necessary.
- Parents/carers are responsible for supplying new inhalers if it is lost, runs out or is forgotten. Spare inhalers must also be checked and renewed annually.
- We are advised by Asthma UK that inhalers are an inherently safe medicine but clearly children should not be allowed to use each others inhalers.
- It is school policy that staff may administer an emergency inhaler where necessary. Parents sign a consent form and are informed when this has happened by the member of staff that administered it.
- Trained staff are insured to assist children with inhalers and nebulisers when acting in accordance with this policy.

## Medical information and responsibilities

- The school has a system to inform staff of pupils medical needs and the arrangements in place to meet them. At the beginning of the school year, or when the pupil joins the school parents/carers have the opportunity to inform staff if their child has asthma.
- Parents/carers have the responsibility to inform school if their child's medication for asthma changes.
- The school keeps a medical register which is updated in accordance with information from parents/carers.
- The school will keep sufficient records to facilitate support for the pupil.

## PE/Sport/Off site activities

- The school seeks to take all practical steps to encourage and enable pupils with asthma to take part in P.E.
- We are working towards children confidently managing their own asthma condition and pupils can request opportunities to use their inhalers whenever they need them.
- When classes take place off site or away from classrooms, the school requires pupils who need inhalers to take them with them and make arrangements for the safe storage/transport of inhalers.
- We have emergency inhalers and spacers on site.

## Triggers for asthma

- The school undertakes to do all it can to ensure that the school environment is favourable for pupils or members of staff with asthma or other respiratory conditions.

## Asthma Attacks – Action to take:

The school follows this procedure which is appropriately displayed in school:

- Ensure the reliever inhaler (blue one) is taken immediately.
- Stay calm and reassure the child.
- If the child is in extreme distress CALL AN AMBULANCE.

## Emergency Procedure/Severe Attacks

A severe attack is defined as:

- The inhaler has no effect after five to ten minutes.
- The child is distressed or unable to talk.
- The child is becoming exhausted.
- The child shows rapid signs of deterioration.

The procedure is CALL AN AMBULANCE.

Repeat the inhaler every five minutes until the ambulance arrives. If a child is in severe distress or loses consciousness, call an ambulance IMMEDIATELY.

## Minor Attacks

- Minor attacks should not interrupt a child's involvement in school. A short rest period may be indicated.
- The child's parent/carer will be told about attacks which are minor but frequent.

## Recording of severe attack

- In the event of a child having a severe asthma attack it is the responsibility of the school to inform the parent/carer.
- Severe attacks will be recorded according to the school's normal procedures for recording medical incidents.
- It is the responsibility of the parent/carer to give the school contact telephone numbers in case of a severe attack. These should consist of primary parent/carer workplace and home telephone numbers, plus a further contact number (which could be either parent or relative) in case they are not reachable at work or home.

## Monitoring

The effectiveness of the policy will be monitored in line with the school's monitoring and reviewing of school policy procedures.