



Meadowhead Community Infant School and Nursery

ASTHMA POLICY

Statement of Intent

This policy will help pupils with the management of their asthma while they are at school. This policy supplements the 'Administration of medication in school' and 'Health and Safety' policies.

Asthma register

- When a child joins the school part of their admission pack is a form to alert the school to asthma needs. The return of this completed form will ensure that they are placed on the Meadowhead Infant School Asthma Register.

Indemnity

- Staff will be asked to agree to administer medication but this is their choice.
- In emergencies staff should act as any prudent parent would, which may include giving medication
- Each inhaler provided by parents / carers for pupils to use must be within date, named and prescribed with an appropriate pharmacy label

Access to Inhalers

- Individual pupils' inhalers are kept in a named zip bags in their classrooms
- Children are allowed access to their inhalers at any time in the school day, should they feel the need to use it
- Inhalers should accompany them when taking part in offsite activities, or residential trips
- Inhalers should be taken outside along with the register for fire drills

Staff Awareness and action in asthma emergencies

- All staff need to be able to manage attacks. Staff will do what a 'reasonable parent' would do in the circumstances prevailing at the time.
- For mild attacks children should take their usual reliever inhaler, as per instructions. Encourage relaxation. An emergency asthma inhaler is kept in the Headteachers room & Nursery.
- An Asthma Spacer Device should be used to ensure maximum effect of the medication taking effect.
- 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 if you have any doubts then the action required is...

- one adult should stay with pupil and use reliever inhaler via spacer while another adult dials 999 for ambulance and states that the child is having a severe asthma attack requiring immediate attention.
- Continue to give relief inhaler while help arrives as per instructions on inhaler.
- Inform parents of the situation and actions taken.

- The incident should then be recorded in the Asthma register in the main office by the person who dealt with the attack, and the entry should be signed and dated by them.

Forgotten or Lost Inhalers

- If a child has not got an inhaler in school, then the schools emergency inhaler can be used.
- The emergency inhaler can only be used by children who have been diagnosed with asthma and/or prescribed a reliever inhaler
- The emergency inhaler can only be used by children who have written parental consent
- If a child's condition does not indicate the need to dial 999 i.e. not a severe attack, contact parents to bring in inhaler or collect child.
- If the child is experiencing a severe attack call 999 without delay.

Training

- The Headteacher is responsible for assessing and arranging for training needs to be met.
- Training/written instructions should be given to teachers willing to administer asthma medication.


Home/School Liaison

- Parents are asked to complete and update asthma records on admission, and to update them annually. They are also required to update them more frequently if the condition or medication changes.
- Absence of parental consent should not stop staff from acting appropriately in emergencies.

Minimising exposure to triggers

Where possible

- We will avoid feathery or furry school pets.
- We will avoid pollen producing plants.
- There is a complete ban on smoking in or on the premises.

Adopted/Ratified:	June 2024
Review Frequency:	3 years
Review Date	June 2027
Signed (Chair of Governors)	
Signed (Headteacher)	