



Bladon C of E Primary School

Asthma Policy (C21)

Bladon CE Primary School recognises that asthma is a widespread, very serious but controllable condition. We ensure that pupils with asthma can and do participate fully in all aspects of school life, including PE, science, breakfast and after school clubs, educational visits or the school's Year 5/6 residential.

This is achieved through:

- Ensuring that children have access to asthma pumps as needed.
- Keeping a record of all pupils with asthma and the medicines they take.
- Creating a whole school environment, including the physical, social, sporting and educational environment, that is favourable to pupils with asthma.
- Helping all pupils to understand asthma as a medical condition.
- Carrying out an annual assembly to the children in school. This will help educate the dangers and importance of asthma and will involve children with asthma in the delivery of the assembly.
November 2015 for the 2015/16 academic year.
- Making sure that all staff (including supply teachers and support staff) who come into contact with pupils with asthma know what to do in the event of an asthma attack.
- Ensure that all staff are regularly trained in the handling of asthma – **Bladon CE Primary School received training for all staff during June 2015. This will be updated every two years.**
- Working in partnership with all interested parties including the school's governing body, all school staff, school nurses, parents/carers,

Background

This policy has been written with advice from the Department for Education, Asthma UK, the local education authority, local healthcare professionals, the school health service, parents/carers, the governing body and pupils.

Asthma medicines

Immediate access to reliever medicines is **essential**. The reliever inhalers of children are kept in safe positions in cupboards. Children must be given access to these. There is an emergency inhaler that is kept in the school office. This emergency inhaler expires in January 2017.

School staff are not required to administer asthma medicines to pupils (except in an emergency). All staff will let pupils take their own medicine when they need to. This is supervised by a qualified first Aider.

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 sent a school asthma letter to give to their child's doctor or asthma nurse to complete. Parents/carers are asked to return the asthma form to the school. From this information the school keeps its asthma register, which is available to all school staff.

A record of when the child takes their asthma relief is kept in the school office. Any irregularities are reported to parents, for example a child needing to take asthma relief more than is usual for that child.

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 children's medicines, or inform the school how much they take or if there are any changes during the year.

A central asthma folder (purple) is kept in the school office. Photographs for visiting staff or cover teaching staff is kept on the white communication board in the office.

Exercise and activity – PE and games

Taking part in sports, games and activities is an essential part of school life for all pupils. All teachers know which children in their class have asthma; their photo is displayed in the classroom. We encourage children as they get older to try to remember these themselves and to take *more control* in remembering their medication.

Pupils with asthma are encouraged to participate fully in all PE lessons. Teachers will remind pupils whose asthma is triggered by exercise to take their reliever inhaler before the lesson, and to thoroughly warm up and down before and after the lesson. If a pupil needs to use their inhaler during a lesson they will be encouraged to do so.

Sport, swimming and Educational Visits

The health benefits of exercise are well documented. Asthma pumps are taken off site and are kept by the leader of the group when the child participates in swimming, sports activities and educational visits. When children are away from school all medication will be kept by the lead member of staff. Asthma medication (along with all other medication) will be stored in a labelled box. Alongside the risk assessment for the activity will be the medicine/medical check form. This will be signed every time that medication has been overseen.

School environment

The school does all that it can to ensure the school environment is favourable to pupils with asthma. As far as possible the school does not use chemicals in science and art lessons that are potential triggers for pupils with asthma. Pupils with asthma are encouraged to leave the room and go and sit in the school office if particular fumes trigger their asthma.

Asthma attacks

All staff who come into contact with pupils with asthma know what to do in the event of an asthma attack.

In the event of an asthma attack the school follows the procedure outlined by Asthma UK. This procedure is visibly displayed in the medical area.

What to do in an asthma attack

- 1 Sit up – don't lie down. Try to keep calm.
- 2 Take one puff of your reliever inhaler (usually blue) every 30-60 seconds, up to a maximum of 10 puffs.
- 3 If you feel worse at any point while you're using your inhaler OR you don't feel better after 10 puffs OR you're worried at any time, call 999 for an ambulance.
- 4 If the ambulance is taking longer than 15 minutes you can repeat step 2.



IMPORTANT! This asthma attack information is not designed for people using a SMART or MART regime. Speak to your GP or asthma nurse to get the correct asthma attack information for them.

Any asthma questions or concerns?
Speak to our expert Helpline nurses,
Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm

0300 222 5800
www.asthma.org.uk



Date: November 2015

Authorised by:

Approved by:

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(Tracey Fletcher, Head Teacher)

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(Ray Banks, Chairman of Governors)

Review date: October 2017