

# Saint Norbert's Catholic School

## Asthma Policy

Date Adopted: Spring 2017

Date of Review: Spring 2018



**ST. NORBERT'S**  
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

### **Our Mission Statement**

**St. Norbert's strives to nurture and develop the whole child through a**

**Love of God**

**Love of one another**

**Love of life itself**

*Article 3- The best interests of the child must be top priority in all actions regarding children.*

*Article 19- Children should be protected from all forms of violence, abuse, neglect and mistreatment by their parents or anyone who looks after them.*

To enable every individual regardless of ability to achieve their full potential, to prepare for future life and to become life long learners, developing a thirst for learning and to become good citizens equipped for the challenges of the 21st century.

Part of our mission statement is - A love of life itself.

The values that underpin this vision can be set out under the following headings.

### **To Develop an Understanding Of Self**

Each child should be guided to

- Develop an appreciation and awareness of self
- Become independent learners and thinkers
- Achieve their fullest potential regardless of their ability and gender
- Have high personal expectations of work and behaviour
- Have a positive attitude towards their own learning
- Show a healthy attitude to living an active life through sport and other recreational activities

### **To Develop An Understanding Of Relationships**

Each child should

- Care for others and oneself
- Show mutual respect and tolerance for spiritual and cultural diversity
- Understand the importance of learning together, and working together as a team

### **To Develop An Understanding Of Society**

Each child should endeavour to become

- Good citizens
- Effective and constructive members of the community
- Able to appreciate and celebrate their own and others success
- Valuable members of the school community

## To Develop An Understanding Of The Environment

Each child should

- Take an active role in caring for the learning environment of the school
- Be safe and cared for in a stimulating learning environment
- Appreciate and respect the environment of the school

Through exposure to a wide range of teaching and learning experiences, pupils will achieve their full potential as independent, THINKING learners. Relevant, enjoyable and enriching activities will develop their thirst for life-long learning.

As a school our belief is that every child deserves to succeed regardless of his or her ability.

### The Principles of our school Asthma Policy

- The School recognises that asthma is an important condition affecting many school children and welcomes all pupils with asthma
- Ensures that children with asthma participate fully in all aspects of school life including PE/Swimming.
- Recognises that immediate access to reliever inhalers is vital
- Keeps records of children with asthma and the medication they take
- Ensures the school environment is favourable to children with asthma
- Ensures that other children understand asthma
- Ensures all staff who come into contact with children with asthma know what to do in the event of an asthma attack
- Will work in partnership with all interested parties including all school staff, parents, governors, doctors and nurses, and children to ensure the policy is implemented and maintained successfully

This policy has been written with advice from the Department for Education and Employment, National Asthma Campaign and the local education authority.

1. This school recognises that asthma is an important condition affecting many school children and positively welcomes all pupils with asthma.
2. This school encourages children with asthma to achieve their potential in all aspects of school life by having a clear policy that is understood by school staff, their employers (the local education authority) and pupils. Supply teachers and new staff are **ALSO MADE AWARE OF THE POLICY**. All staff who come into contact with children with asthma are provided with training on asthma on a 3 year cycle, from the school nurse who has had asthma training.

### Medication

Immediate access to reliever is vital. Children are encouraged to carry their reliever inhaler as soon as the parents, doctor or nurse and class teacher agree they are mature enough. The reliever inhalers of younger children are kept in the classroom. Parents are asked to ensure that the school is provided with a labelled spare reliever inhaler.

The class teacher will hold this separately in case the child's own inhaler runs out or is lost or forgotten. All inhalers must be labelled with the child's name by the parent. School staff are not required to administer medication to children except in an emergency however many of our staff are happy to do this. School staff who agree to do this are insured by the local education authority when acting in accordance with this policy. **All school staff will let children take their own medication when they need to.**

### Record Keeping

At the beginning of each school year, or when a child joins the school, parents are asked if their child has asthma/medical conditions. From this information the school keeps its asthma register which is available for all school staff. Medical Care are then sent to parents on an annual basis to update. If medication changes in between times, parents are asked to inform the school.

The school holds inhalers for each child and they are regularly checked for expiry dates by a member of staff.

### PE

Taking part in sports is an essential part of school life. Teachers are aware of which children have asthma from the asthma register. Children with asthma are encouraged to participate fully in PE. Teachers will remind children whose

asthma is triggered by exercise to take their reliever inhaler before the lesson and complete a warm up of a couple of short sprints over five minutes before the lesson. Each child's inhalers will be labelled and kept in a red box at the site of the lesson. If a child needs to use their inhaler during the lesson, they will be encouraged to do so.

### **The School Environment**

The school does all that it can to ensure the school environment is favourable to children with asthma. The school does not keep furry and feathery pets and has a non-smoking policy. As far as possible the school does not use chemicals in science and art lessons that are potential triggers for children with asthma. Children are encouraged to leave the room and go and sit in the entrance hall if particular fumes trigger their asthma.

### **Making the School Asthma Friendly**

The school ensures that all children understand asthma. Asthma can be included in Key Stages 1 and 2 in science, design and technology, geography, history and PE of the national curriculum. Children with asthma and their friends are encouraged to learn about asthma; information for children and teens can be accessed from the following website [www.asthma.org.uk](http://www.asthma.org.uk).

### **When a Child is falling behind in lessons**

If a child is missing a lot of time from school because of asthma or is tired in class because of disturbed sleep and falling behind in class, the class teacher will initially talk to the parents. If appropriate the teacher will then talk to the school nurse and special educational needs coordinator/inclusion manager about the situation. The school recognises that it is possible for children with asthma to have special education needs because of asthma.

### **Asthma Attacks**

All staff who come into contact with children with asthma know what to do in the event of an asthma attack. The school follows the following procedure, which is clearly displayed in all classrooms.

- 1. Ensure that the reliever inhaler is taken immediately.**
- 2. Stay calm and reassure the child.**
- 3. Help the child to breathe by ensuring tight clothing is loosened.**

### **After the attack**

Minor attacks should not interrupt a child's involvement in school. When they feel better they can return to school activities.

The child's parents must be told about the attack.

### **Emergency procedure**

Call the child's doctor urgently from the secretary's office using the asthma register to find out the number of the GP if:

- The reliever has no effect after five to ten minutes
- The child is either distressed or unable to talk
- The child is getting exhausted
- You have any doubts at all about the child's condition

**If the Doctor is unobtainable, call an ambulance**

- If for any reason the child stops breathing, an ambulance should be called immediately

A child should always be taken to hospital in an ambulance. School staff should not take them in their car as the child's condition may deteriorate



Emergency Inhalers  
2014.pdf

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
(Headteacher)

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
(for and on behalf of the Governing board)

Date \_\_\_\_\_