

Saint Norbert's Catholic Academy

Asthma Policy

Date Adopted: Advent 2020

Date of Review: Advent 2021



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.

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 advice.

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/CMAT) and pupils. Supply teachers and new staff are also made aware of policy and medical records file in staffroom and within Scholarpack System. All staff who come into contact with children with asthma are provided with training on asthma on an annual cycle, from the school nurse who has had asthma training or on-line module.

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 in medical bags worn by pupils or placed on medical bag hook or child's chair. Parents are asked where possible to provide the school is provided with a labelled spare reliever inhaler.

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. **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 and Asthma Medical cards which are available for all school staff. Medical Care Plans 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. They are kept with green waist satchel's that children have responsibility to wear and transport with them around school.

Where a child self-administers more than three times a week, parents must be informed and recommendations made to visit the GP for re-assessment of condition and need.

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 green personal waist satchel's 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.

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/Head 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

DFE Latest Emergency Inhaler Guidance:

Currently our setting does not hold emergency inhalers on-site:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/emergency-asthma-inhalers-for-use-in-schools>

Signed _____
(Head of School)

Signed _____
(for and on behalf of the Local Governing Board)

Date _____