

Brighter Futures Academy Trust
Asthma Policy



Name of Policy Writer/Amendments	Date Written/Amended	Next Review Date
C Howarth	October 2014	October 2015
C Webb	December 2014	December 2015
R Denham	August 2015	September 2017
R Denham	January 2017	January 2019

LUDDENDENFOOT ACADEMY

School Asthma Policy

Reviewed: January 2017

Next Review: January 2019

Luddendenfoot Academy recognises that asthma is an important condition affecting many school children and positively welcomes all pupils with asthma.

At Luddendenfoot Academy we encourage children with asthma to achieve their potential in all aspects of school life by having a clear policy that is understood by school staff and pupils. All staff who come into contact with children with asthma are provided with training on asthma from the school nurse who has had asthma training. Training is to be updated once a year.

Medication

Immediate access to reliever inhalers is vital. Children's inhalers are stored in the first aid container in the classrooms. The inhalers for reception children are stored in reception stock cupboard. All inhalers must be labelled with the child's name by the parent. Administering medication is a voluntary role and one that many of our staff are happy to play. In an emergency situation however school staff are required to act as any reasonable or prudent person would. This may include administering medication. 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. All parents of children with asthma are given a National Asthma Campaign card to give to their child's GP or asthma nurse to complete and return to the school. From this information the school keeps its asthma register, which is available for all school staff. Cards are sent to the parents on an annual basis to update. Parents are asked to inform the school if their child has asthma or if their medication changes. Parents are also asked to provide the school with a spare inhaler that is labelled with the child's name and within the expiry date. A record of when the child has taken their inhaler will be kept in the asthma box.

PE/Swimming/Sporting activities

Taking part in sports is an essential part of school life. All 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 inhaler will be labelled and kept in a 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. Teachers will also ensure that children have immediate access to their inhalers when they leave the school site.

The school environment

The school does all it can to ensure the school environment is favourable to children with asthma. The school has a non-smoking policy. The school does not use chemicals that are potential triggers for children with asthma.

When a child is falling behind in class

If a child is falling behind in class because of asthma or is tired in class because of disturbed sleep, the class teacher will initially talk to the parents. If appropriate the class teacher will then talk to the nurse and SENCO about the situation.

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:

1. Ensure that the relief 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 the 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 an ambulance 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.**

The school 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 is written in conjunction with
The First Aid Policy
Supporting Children with Medical Needs
Appendix 1

CONSENT FORM: USE OF EMERGENCY SALBUTAMOL INHALER

Luddendenfoot Academy

Child showing symptoms of asthma / having asthma attack

1. I can confirm that my child has been diagnosed with asthma / has been prescribed an inhaler [delete as appropriate].

2. My child has a working, in-date inhaler, clearly labelled with their name, which they will bring with them to school every day and the school also holds a spare inhaler prescribed for my child.

3. In the event of my child displaying symptoms of asthma, and if their inhaler and spare inhaler are not available or are unusable, I consent for my child to receive salbutamol from an emergency inhaler held by the school for such emergencies.

Signed:

Date;.....

Name (print).....

Childs Name.....

Class:

Parents contact details;

Address

Mobile telephone number

Appendix 2

LETTER TO INFORM PARENTS OF EMERGENCY SALBUTAMOL INHALER USE

Child's Name

This letter is to formally notify you that.....has had problems with his / her breathing today at o'clock. This happened when.....
.....(description of what student was doing at the time and where he/she was) A member of staff helped them to use their asthma inhaler.

The inhaler used was (please space that applies)

Pupil's own prescribed inhaler

Pupil's own prescribed spare inhaler

School's emergency inhaler

Number of puffs given.....

Although they soon felt better, we would strongly advise that you have your son / daughter seen by your own doctor as soon as possible.