

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
C Howarth	April 2018	April 2020
C Howarth	May 2020	May 2022

School Asthma Policy

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

At Brighter Futures Academy Trust 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 pupils with asthma are provided with training on asthma from the school nurse who has had asthma training. Training is to be updated on a regular basis.

Medication

Immediate access to reliever inhalers is vital. Pupil'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 pupils 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 parent/carers of children with asthma are given a specific documentations to complete. From this information the school keeps its asthma register, which is available for all school staff. Asthma records are sent to parent/carers on an annual basis. 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 classroom medical boxes.

PE/Swimming/Sporting activities

Taking part in sports is an essential part of school life. All teachers are aware of which pupils have asthma from the asthma register. Pupils with asthma are encouraged to participate fully in PE. Teachers will remind pupils 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 pupil's inhaler will be labelled and kept in a box at the site of the lesson. If a pupil needs to use their inhaler during the lesson they will be encouraged to do so. Teachers will also ensure that pupils 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 pupils 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 pupil 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 SENDCo about the situation.

Asthma Attacks

All staff who come into contact with pupil 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 pupil
3. Help the pupil to breathe by ensuring tight clothing is loosened.

After the attack

Minor attacks should not interrupt the pupil's involvement in school. When they feel better they can return to school activities. The pupil'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 pupil 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

Brighter Futures Academy Trust Asthma Plan

Date:

Name:..... Date of birth:..... Allergies:..... Emergency contact:..... Emergency contact number Doctor's phone number:..... Class.....	Affix photo here
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What are the signs that you/your child may be having an asthma attack?

Are there any key words that you/your child may use to express their asthma symptoms?

What is the name of your/your child's reliever medicine and the device?

Does your child have a spacer device? (The asthma team recommend that all primary aged children have a spacer device)

What are your/your child's known asthma triggers?

Do you/your child need to take their reliever medicine before exercise? (please circle) Yes No

If YES, Warm up properly and take 2 puffs (1 at a time) of the reliever inhaler 15 minutes before any exercise unless otherwise indicated below:

I give my consent for school staff to administer/assist my child with their own reliever inhaler as required. Their inhaler is clearly labelled and in date.

Signed.....
Date.....

Print Name.....

Relationship to child.....

EMERGENCY CARE

If the child's symptoms are becoming worse and they are:

- Struggling to breath
- Cannot speak in full sentences
- And their blue inhaler is not working

Then you need to

- CALL 999 stating the child is having an acute asthma attack
- Sit the child upright
- Ensure child takes two puffs of their blue inhaler via a spacer device. One puff at a time every two minutes and to take up to 10 puffs as needed.
- If help has not arrived in 10 minutes repeat until help arrives.

CONSENT FORM
USE OF EMERGENCY SALBUTAMOL INHALER

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/that will be left at school (delete as appropriate)
3. In the event of my child displaying symptoms of asthma, and if their inhaler is not available or is unusable, I give consent for my child to receive salbutamol from an emergency inhaler held by the school for such emergencies

Signed

Date.....

Name

(print).....

Relationship to

child.....

Child's

Name.....

Class.....

