



NIGHTINGALE PRIMARY SCHOOL

ASTHMA POLICY

Aims

Nightingale Primary School welcomes children with asthma and;

- Encourages and supports children with asthma to participate fully in all aspects of school life, including PE and school trips.
- Recognises that asthma is a common and potentially serious condition affecting many school children.
- Ensures immediate access to inhalers at all times.
- Promotes a school environment that is supportive and safe for children with asthma.
- Encourages all children to understand asthma, fostering empathy and support among peers.
- Maintains a clear understanding of what to do in the event of an asthma attack.
- Works in partnership with parents, staff, governors, and health professionals to implement this policy effectively.

Roles and Responsibilities

Headteacher / Leadership Team:

- Ensures the policy is implemented and reviewed regularly.
- Ensures staff training in asthma management is available and up to date.

Class Teachers / Staff:

- Are aware of which children have asthma (via the class medical list).
- Ensure inhalers are accessible during lessons, PE and trips.
- Know how to respond to asthma attacks and record inhaler use.

School Office / First Aid Team:

- Maintain the inventory of inhalers, including expiry dates.
- Ensure the emergency inhaler is available and ready for use.
- Communicate with parents when inhalers are used or nearing expiry.

Parents / Carers:

- Provide the school with up-to-date information about their child's asthma and inhaler requirements.
- Supply inhalers and ensure they are in date.
- Complete an Individual Asthma Action Plan if requested.

Basic Principles

1. Asthma Register

- All pupils with asthma are listed on the class medical list, alerting staff to their needs.
- Individual Asthma Action Plans are kept for children with severe or complex asthma.

2. Inhaler Storage and Access

- Each child's inhaler is stored in a named bag/box in the classroom's red medical bag.
- The expiry date of each inhaler is recorded in the medicine inventory. Parents are contacted in advance for replacements.
- Emergency inhalers are kept on-site for use if a child's inhaler is unavailable or not working.
- Inhalers are taken on trips, during PE and other off-site activities.

3. Record-Keeping

- Use of each inhaler is recorded on a form kept with the inhaler.
- Records are monitored to identify patterns and ensure timely communication with parents.

4. Emergency Procedures

- Staff are trained to recognise asthma attacks.
- In the event of an attack:
 1. Sit the child upright and stay calm.
 2. Administer the child's inhaler as per instructions.
 3. If no improvement, or if the child is struggling to breathe, call 999 immediately.
 4. Parents are informed as soon as possible.

5. Staff Training

- All staff receive training in asthma awareness, recognition of attacks and inhaler use.
- Training is refreshed regularly and whenever there is a change in guidance or staffing.

6. Trips and PE

- Children are encouraged to participate fully.
- Staff ensure inhalers are accessible at all times.
- Risk assessments for off-site activities consider children with asthma.

7. Review

- This policy will be reviewed every three years or sooner if there are incidents, changes in legislation or updates to guidance.