

Asthma Procedure Including Early Years Foundation Stage

Date of review: October 2018

Next review date: October 2020

Reviewed by: Mrs N Lane, School Nurse.

Asthma is a common condition where upon the airways constrict restricting normal air to the lungs. This can be triggered by exercise, allergy, stress or change of temperature. All parents will be asked by means of a medical form whether their son/daughter has asthma and its treatment. A record of all pupils with asthma will be maintained at reception. Details of any treatment, when provided by the parents, are kept by reception.

The government guidelines – Guidance on the use of emergency salbutamol inhalers in schools March 2015 will be followed.

(source: Department of Health March 2015)

Students from year 3 upwards, will be assessed on an individual basis with consultation from the parents on their capability to carry and administer inhalers. Spare inhalers can be held in reception in a cabinet with an emergency pull-tag, together with inhalers for pupils from Reception class to Year 3. Any prescribed inhalers for Preschool pupils are held in a locked cupboard in the classroom. A log sheet is held at the reception desk to show receipt of inhalers at the start of each term. When an inhaler is removed from the reception cupboard (e.g. for a school trip or by a parent a log sheet is to be signed and dated on removal of and return of any inhaler. Emergency inhalers and spacers are kept in cabinet in reception, this is to be only by anyone who has a prescribed inhaler but doesn't have access to their own.

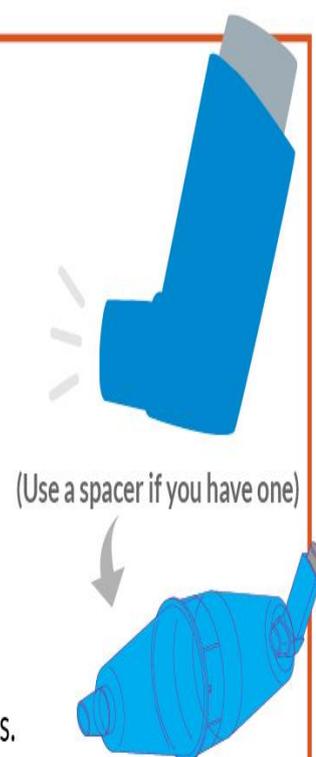
The School's policy on smoking ensures that pupils are not exposed to this hazard.

Signs and symptoms of an asthma attack:

- **Wheezing**
- **Coughing**
- **Shortness of breath**
- **Tightness in the chest**
- **Blue tinge to lips**

What to do if a child is having an asthma attack

- 1 Help them sit up straight and keep calm.
- 2 Help them take one puff of their reliever inhaler (usually blue) every 30-60 seconds, up to a maximum of 10 puffs.
- 3 **Call 999 for an ambulance if:**
 - their symptoms get worse while they're using their inhaler - this could be a cough, breathlessness, wheeze, tight chest or sometimes a child will say they have a 'tummy ache'
 - they don't feel better after 10 puffs
 - you're worried at any time.
- 4 You can repeat step 2 if the ambulance is taking longer than 15 minutes.



IMPORTANT! This asthma attack information is not designed for children using a SMART or MART regime. If they do not have a reliever inhaler, call an ambulance. Then speak to their GP or asthma nurse to get the correct asthma attack information for the future.

Plymouth College Preparatory School

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

Signed: Date:

Name (print):

Child's name:

Class:

Parent's address and contact details:

.....
.....
.....

Telephone:

E-mail:

**LETTER TO INFORM PARENTS OF
EMERGENCY SALBUTAMOL INHALER USE**

Child's name:

Class:

Date:

Dear.....

This letter is to formally notify you that.....has had problems with his / her breathing today.

This happened when.....
.....
.....

A member of staff has assisted your child with a Ventolin inhaler.

The symptoms subsided and your child resumed a normal day.

OR

The symptoms did not resolve so an ambulance was called,

Yours sincerely,