



Manor Primary School

Asthma Policy

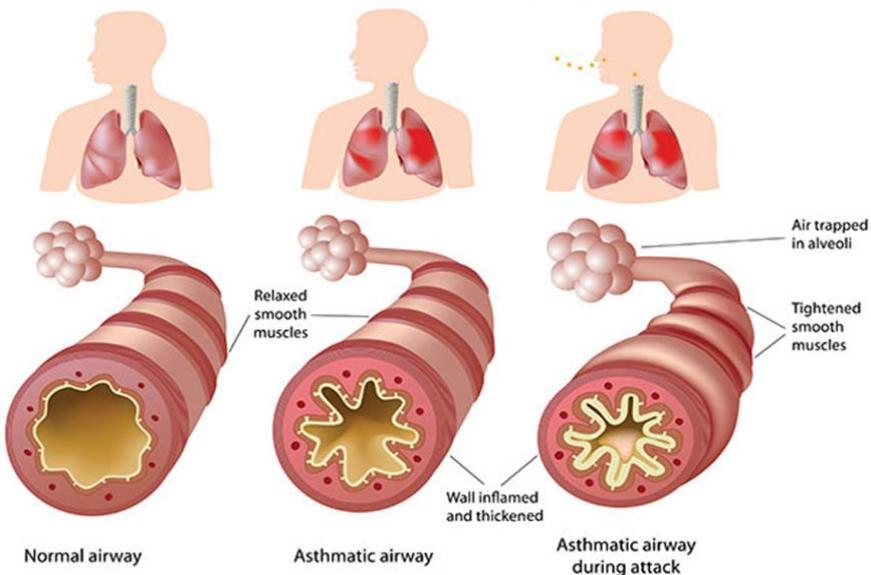


Asthma Policy

Asthma

Asthma is a condition that affects small tubes (airways) that carry air in and out of the lungs. When a person with asthma comes into contact with something that irritates their airways (an asthma trigger), the muscles around the walls of the airways tighten so that the airways become narrower and the lining of the airways becomes inflamed and starts to swell. Sometimes, sticky mucus or phlegm builds up, which can further narrow the airways. These reactions make it difficult to breathe, leading to symptoms of asthma (Source: Asthma UK).

Asthma and Your Airways



Rationale

At Manor Primary School we recognise that asthma is a widespread, serious but controllable condition and the school welcomes all pupils with asthma. We ensure that pupils with asthma can and do participate fully in all aspects of school life, including art lessons, PE, science, visits, outings or field trips and other out of hours school activities.

We recognise that pupils with asthma need immediate access to reliever inhalers at all times and keep a record of all pupils with asthma and the medicines they take.



We ensure that the whole school environment, including the physical, social, sporting and educational environment, is favourable to pupils with asthma and that all pupils understand asthma.

We regularly provide update training to ensure that all staff (including support staff) who come into contact with pupils with asthma know what to do in an asthma attack

We understand that pupils with asthma may experience bullying and have procedures in place to prevent this

At Manor Primary School, we work in partnership with all interested parties including the school's governing body, all school staff, school nurses, parents/carers, employers of school staff, doctors, nurses and pupils to ensure the policy is planned, implemented and maintained successfully.

Asthma medicines

Immediate access to reliever medicines is essential. Pupils with asthma are encouraged to carry their reliever inhaler as soon as the parent/carer, doctor or asthma nurse and class teacher agree they are mature enough. The reliever inhalers of younger children are kept in the classroom.

Parents/carers are asked to ensure that the school is provided with a labelled spare reliever inhaler. The class teacher will hold this separately in case the pupils own inhaler runs out, or is lost or forgotten. All inhalers must be labelled with the child's name by the parent/carer.

School staff are not required to administer asthma medicines to pupils (except in an emergency), however many of the staff at this school are happy to do this.

School staff who agree to administer medicines are insured by the local authority when acting in agreement with this policy. All school staff will let pupils take their own medicines when they need to.

Record keeping

At the beginning of each school year or when a child joins the school, parents/carers are asked if their child has any medical conditions including asthma on their enrolment form.



Exercise and activity PE and games

Taking part in sports, games and activities is an essential part of school life for all pupils. All teachers know which children in their class have asthma and teachers at the school are aware of which pupils have asthma from the school's asthma register.

Pupils with asthma are encouraged to participate fully in all PE lessons.

Out of Hours

There has been a large emphasis in recent years on increasing the number of children and young people involved in exercise and sport in and outside of school. The health benefits of exercise are well documented and this is also true for children and young people with asthma. It is therefore important that the school involve pupils with asthma as much as possible in after school clubs.

School Environment

The school does all that it can to ensure the school environment is favourable to pupils with asthma. The school does not keep furry or feathery animals and has a definite no smoking policy. As far as possible the school does not use chemicals in science and art lessons that are potential triggers for pupils with asthma. Pupils with asthma are encouraged to leave the room and go and sit in the school office if particular fumes trigger their asthma.

When a pupil is falling behind in lessons

If a pupil is missing a lot of time at school or is always tired because their asthma is disturbing their sleep at night, the class teacher will initially talk to the parents/carers to work out how to prevent their child from falling behind. If appropriate, the teacher will then talk to the school nurse and special education needs coordinator about the pupil's needs.

The school recognises that it is possible for pupils with asthma to have special education needs due to their asthma.

Asthma Attacks

All staff who come into contact with pupils with asthma know what to do in the event of an asthma attack.

Trigger Factors

- * House dust mite
- * Smoke/Second hand smoke
- * Pollution/Fumes (perfume, deodorants, chlorine etc.)



- * Infections
- * Animals
- * Pollen/Grass cuttings/Moulds/Spores
- * Temperature change/ Weather
- * Exercise
- * Some drugs/ Recreational drugs
- * Anxiety/Stress/Emotions
- * Hormones

Signs and Symptoms

- * Cough especially at night
- * Wheeze
- * Breathlessness
- * Tight chest/chest hurting
- * Unusually quiet.
- * Difficulty speaking in full sentences
- * Younger children may express above as 'tummy ache'

To consider:

- * Everyone is different.
- * Rare to see all symptoms together

During an Attack

- * Keep calm and reassure child.
- * Medication should be given as early as possible.
- * Take medication to child.
- * Encourage child to preferably stand or sit up and slightly forward when taking medication. (This applies in non emergency)
- * DO NOT HUG OR LIE CHILD DOWN.
- * Give inhaler as described, using spacer.
- * Allow 1-2 minutes to observe effects.
- * If no relief, repeat 2 puffs every 2 minutes up to 10 puffs.
- * NEVER LEAVE A CHILD ALONE, DURING OR FOLLOWING AN ATTACK.



Always seek medical advice if:

No improvement after 10 minutes of treatment.

Child too breathless or exhausted to talk.

Child is drowsy.

Any blueness of lips.

Or any doubts about condition at any time.

Access and Review of Policy

The Asthma Policy will be accessible to all staff and the community on request. This policy will be reviewed on a two yearly cycle.



Dear Parent\Carer

School Asthma Care Plan

We are committed to providing quality care for children with asthma. You will be pleased to know that this school takes its responsibilities to pupils with asthma seriously and that the school has an Asthma Policy to enable all staff members to help your child manage their condition.

To ensure your child receives the best possible care at all times, we ask you to assist with the following:-

- Complete the school asthma care plan (if you are in any doubt about the treatment, please take the form to your doctor or asthma nurse for completion)
- Sign the declaration form
- Inform school immediately of any change of treatment (when appropriate)
- Ensure your child has a reliever (blue) inhaler for use in school (and a spacer if this is the usual method of delivery) as well as a home inhaler. School inhaler to be kept in school please during term time.

Please complete even if your child has no symptoms at present and only has a history of asthma. We still need this information. If you have any questions or wish to see a copy of the Asthma Policy and procedures, please contact myself or the School Nurse. Thank you for your co-operation in this important matter.

Yours sincerely

Anita Cliff
EXECUTIVE HEADTEACHER



MANOR PRIMARY SCHOOL - ASTHMA DECLARATION

I (parent/carer's name)

confirm that my child is :-

- a Able to take responsibility for the administration of their own reliever in school (blue) inhaler when required

or

- b Unable to take responsibility for the administration of their own reliever inhaler (blue) and will require assistance from parent\carer during school hours

Signed (Parent\carer)

Date.....



Asthma Register and Asthma Care Plan

My child suffers from Asthma and requires an inhaler in school

Child's name.....

Date of Birth.....

Address.....

Telephone Number

Regular treatment to be given during school hours

Name of medication	Dosage	When to be taken

Reliever medication to be given as required

Name of medication	Dosage	When to be taken

Treatment to be taken before exercise

Name of medication	Dosage	When to be taken

Asthma Triggers (if known)

I hereby give permission for my child to receive the school inhaler in an emergency

Signed..... (Parent/Carer)

Date.....

*Copy to School Nurse:- Denise Holmes