



*"Inspiring a love of lifelong learning"*

# **Asthma Policy**

**Policy date: Spring 2019**  
**Review date: Spring 2022**

Learning at Charville is underpinned by our Core Values, which are as follows:

- Respect
- Independence
- Self-belief
- Honesty
- Caring
- Determination

## 1. Scope

Asthma is a condition which affects a range of children across the Academy to different extents. Appropriate care is essential to ensure the health and safety of pupils.

## 2. Aim:

This policy contains the guidance and procedures to be followed when caring for children with asthma to ensure:

- Full participation in all aspects of school life and reduced absence
- Staff have a clear understanding of the procedures to follow in the event of a child having an asthma attack
- To ensure immediate access to inhalers
- To keep accurate records of children's medication
- Adherence to the current guidance on use of emergency salbutamol inhalers in schools.

## 3. Medications and inhalers

There are two types of treatment both of which come in an inhaler.

Preventers - These inhalers are taken daily to make the airways less sensitive to the triggers. They are usually taken morning and night. They come in brown containers. These inhalers are not used or kept in school.

Relievers - These inhalers quickly open up the narrowed airways and help the child's breathing difficulties. They usually come in blue containers. These inhalers are kept in the child's classroom.

Emergency Salbutamol inhalers will provide medication in an emergency only for pupils prescribed a salbutamol inhaler already with written parent consent in designated areas around the school.

All children should take their inhalers through a large plastic chamber called a spacer, into which the aerosol is released.

Every child that has asthma should have one prescribed relief inhaler and spacer in place before the child commences school. This is kept in the classroom. It is essential that all pupils with asthma are allowed to access their reliever inhaler freely at all times.

Class relief inhalers are kept in boxes. Each inhaler is labelled with the child's name and dosage. If the inhaler is used this should be recorded on CPOMS and the medical room must be advised. Inhaler boxes should be taken to all activities the children participate in.

Staff in Breakfast/Cast Club would use the nearest emergency pack.

#### **4. Administering Medication**

Every child is encouraged to get, and use their inhaler without any help.

Some children need to use their relief inhalers before exercise. Class teachers and the PE teacher are informed, the inhaler is administered and administration is recorded on CPOMS.

The teacher / TA will monitor the child while they take their inhaler and log on CPOMS.

Staff receive asthma advice on a yearly basis from the School Nurse. Asthma posters are on display in every classroom and checked and updated yearly if required.

#### **5. Asthma Records**

Every child that has asthma has an Asthma card detailing their care plan which is stored in the medical room.

#### **6. Parental responsibilities.**

Parents are required to fill in a school asthma card on diagnosis or admission. These are kept in the medical room.

Parents are responsible for providing the school with one prescribed inhaler and a spacer for their child.

It is the parent's responsibility to provide one inhaler and to replace any out of date medication as soon as they are notified by the school.

Parents are also required to keep the school informed about any changes in their child's asthma or care plan.

Every parent signs a parental consent form giving permission for relief inhaler to be used plus emergency salbutamol inhaler. If a child needs to use their inhaler more than agreed on the consent form, parents are informed.

#### **7. Emergency Inhalers**

Emergency inhalers are kept in: Green room, Welfare, EYFS, Staffroom and the Dining Hall.

Each pack contains:

- Inhaler
- Spacer
- List of children with consent.

In the event of an emergency, and the child's own inhaler not being available/usable, staff should use the nearest emergency pack.

## **8. Advice and Support**

If further help is required with regards to the management of a child's asthma to prevent it impacting on access to education advice should be sought from the School Nurse via Welfare.

## **9. Related Policies**

- First Aid Policy
- Medical Needs Policy

# **ASTHMA ATTACK - WHAT TO DO**

(Taken from the National Asthma Campaign School Pack & Medical Conditions at School)

## **What To Do**

1. Relief inhaler (blue) to be taken **immediately**. Never move the child. If the pupil does not have their inhaler and spacer with them, collect emergency inhaler or the pupil's classroom inhaler (the nearest inhaler to the child). Never leave a pupil on their own – stay calm and reassure them.
2. Send for Welfare help by means of Green Card (in inhaler boxes or bum bags).
3. Help the child to breathe – encourage the child to breathe slowly and deeply. Loosen tight clothing and sit upright or leaning forward.

**Minor attacks** should not interrupt a child's involvement in school activities. As soon as they feel better they can return to their activities. Parents will always be notified.

**Severe Asthma Attack** - If normal relief inhaler does not work - child breathless enough to have difficulty in talking, distressed, getting exhausted, or there are any doubts about child's condition - call for an ambulance, and inform parents.

Keep trying relief inhaler every 5-10 minutes.



## **CONSENT FORM:**

### **Prescribed Asthma Inhaler & the Use of Emergency Salbutamol Inhaler**

**Child's Name:-** \_\_\_\_\_

#### **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 will be kept in the classroom.
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: .....

Condition:-.....

Start Date: .....

Medicine: .....

Dosage:- (As & when required)