

<u>Responsible Body</u>	<u>Title of Policy</u>	
<u>Governing Body of Flyford Flavell Primary School</u>	<u>Asthma Policy</u>	

Last reviewed on Date: 30th April 2026

Next Review Date: 30th April 2029

Signature..... (Chair of Governors)

Print Name.....

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)

As a school, we recognise that asthma is a widespread, serious, but controllable condition. This school welcomes all pupils with asthma and aims to support these children in participating fully in school life. We endeavour to do this by ensuring we have:

- an asthma register
- up-to-date asthma policy
- an asthma lead
- all pupils with immediate access to their rescue inhaler at all times,
- all pupils have an up-to-date asthma action plan,
- an emergency salbutamol inhaler
- ensure all staff have regular asthma training,
- promote asthma awareness pupils, parents and staff

Asthma Register

We have an asthma register of children within the school, which we update yearly. When parents/carers inform us that their child is asthmatic or has been prescribed a rescue inhaler we ensure that the pupil has been added to the asthma register and has:

- an up-to-date copy of their personal asthma care plan,
- their rescue device (salbutamol inhaler and spacer / Symbicort turbohaler) in school
- permission from the parents/carers to use the emergency salbutamol inhaler if they require it and their own inhaler is broken, out of date, empty or has been lost

Asthma Leads

Flyford Flavell Primary school have two asthma leads who are named below.

Mr A Kearns, Mr S Jones

It is the role of the Asthma Leads to:

- Manage and update the asthma register, update
- Manage the emergency salbutamol inhalers (please refer to the Department of Health Guidance on the use of emergency salbutamol inhalers in schools, March 2015)
- Ensure measures are in place so that children have immediate access to their inhalers.
- Ensure staff training in place and that staff feel confident supporting children with asthma.

Medication and Inhalers

All children with asthma should have immediate access to their rescue device, salbutamol (usually blue) or their Symbicort Turbohaler (white and red) at all times. The rescue inhaler is a fast-acting medication that opens up the airways and makes it easier for the child to breathe. (Source: Asthma UK).

Some children may have a Maintenance and Reliever Therapy (MART) Symbicort Turbohaler. This inhaler is taken morning and night as a preventer inhaler and used as needed to relieve symptoms rather than the blue salbutamol inhaler.

Some children will also have a preventer inhaler, which is usually taken morning and night, as prescribed by the doctor/nurse. This medication needs to be taken regularly for maximum benefit. Children should not bring their preventer inhaler to school as it should be taken regularly as prescribed by their doctor/nurse at home.

However, if the pupil is going on a residential trip, we are aware that they will need to take the inhaler with them so they can continue taking their inhaler as prescribed.

School staff are not required to administer asthma medicines to pupils however many children have poor inhaler technique or are unable to take the inhaler by themselves. Failure to receive their medication could result in hospitalisation or even death.. If we have any concerns over a child's ability to use their inhaler, we will refer them to the school nurse service and advise parents/carers to arrange a review with their GP/nurse.

Asthma Care Plans

Asthma & Lung UK evidence shows that if someone with asthma has a personalised asthma care plan they are four times less likely to be admitted to hospital due to their asthma. Therefore, we believe it is essential that all children with asthma have a personal asthma care plan to ensure asthma is managed effectively within school to prevent hospital admissions.

Staff Training

Staff will need regular asthma updates. School will provide training to at least 85% of staff every two years.

School Environment

The school does all that it can to ensure the school environment is favourable to pupils with asthma. Smoking or vaping is not allowed on school grounds. Pupil's asthma triggers will be recorded as part of their asthma action plans and the school will ensure, where possible, that pupils will not come into contact with their triggers. We are aware that triggers can include:

- Colds and infection
- Dust and house dust mite
- Pollen, spores and moulds
- Feathers
- Furry animals
- Exercise, laughing
- Stress
- Cold air, change in the weather
- Chemicals, glue, paint, aerosols
- Food allergies
- Fumes and cigarette smoke

As part of our responsibility to ensure all children are kept safe within the school grounds and on trips away, a risk assessment will be performed by staff. These risk assessments will establish asthma triggers which the children could be exposed to and plans will be put in place to ensure these triggers are avoided, where possible.

Exercise and Activity

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

Pupils with asthma are encouraged to participate fully in all activities. If a pupil needs to use their inhaler during a lesson, they will be encouraged to do so.

When Asthma is Affecting a Pupil's Education

The school are aware that the aim of asthma medication is to allow people with asthma to live a normal life. Therefore, if we recognise that asthma is impacting on a child's life, and they are unable to take part in activities, tired during the day, or falling behind in lessons we will discuss this with parents/carers, the school nurse (with consent) and suggest they make an appointment with their asthma nurse/doctor. It may simply be that the pupil needs an asthma review, to review inhaler technique, medication review or an updated Personalised Asthma Action Plan, to improve their symptoms. However, the school recognises that Pupils with asthma could be classed as having disability due to their asthma as defined by the Equality Act 2010, and therefore may have additional needs because of their asthma.

Emergency Salbutamol Inhaler in School

As a school we are aware of the guidance 'The use of emergency salbutamol inhalers in schools from the Department of Health' (March, 2015) which gives guidance on the use of emergency salbutamol inhalers in schools (March, 2015).

We have emergency an kit, which are kept in the First Aid cupboard so it is easy to access. The kit contains:

- A salbutamol metered dose inhaler;
- Two spacers compatible with the inhaler;
- Instructions on using the inhaler and spacer;
- Instruction on cleaning and storing the inhaler;
- Manufacturer's information;
- A list of children permitted to use the emergency inhaler:
- A record of administration

We understand that salbutamol is a relatively safe medicine, particularly if inhaled, but all medicines can have some adverse effects. Those of inhaled salbutamol are well known, tend to be mild and temporary are not likely to cause serious harm. The child may feel a bit shaky or may tremble, or they may say that they feel their heart is beating faster.

