



POLICY TITLE	Asthma Policy Guidelines
UPDATED	October 2022 (Review March 2024)

Asthma Policy Guidelines

As a school we take the condition of asthma very seriously and our policy has been developed taking into account the following principles:

The School:

- Recognise that asthma is an important condition affecting many school children and welcomes pupils with asthma
- Ensures that children with asthma participate fully in all aspects of school life including PE, Games and Swimming
- Recognise that immediate access to reliever inhalers is vital
- Keep records of children with asthma and the medication that they take
- Ensures the school environment is favourable to children with asthma
- Ensures that other children understand asthma
- Ensures all staff who come into contact with children with asthma know what to do in the event of an asthma attack (INSET if deemed appropriate)
- Will work in partnership with all interested parties including all school staff, parents, governors, doctors and nurses, and children to ensure the policy is implemented and maintained successfully

School Asthma Policy

This policy has been written with advice from the DCSF, the National Asthma Campaign, and the LA, the School Health Service, the parents, governing body and pupils.

Minet Junior School recognises that asthma is an important condition affecting many school children and positively welcomes all pupils with asthma.

Our school encourages children with asthma to achieve their full potential in all aspects of school life by having a clear policy that is understood by all school staff, their employees (the LA) and pupils. Supply teachers and new staff are also made aware of the policy. All staff that come into contact with children with asthma are provided with information related to asthma and refer to the school welfare officer who has asthma training.

Class teachers will have a list of pupils suffering from asthma via the class register. A list will also be placed on the notice board in the staff room. An information sheet on asthma procedures will be provided to supply teachers.

Medication

Immediate access to reliever inhalers is vital. The reliever inhalers of children are kept in a box/bag in their class room. Parents are asked to ensure that the school is provided with a labelled spare reliever inhaler. (These will be kept in the welfare room.) All inhalers must be labelled with the child's name by the parent. School staff are not required to administer medication to children except in an emergency. School staff who agree to do this are insured by the LA when acting in accordance with this policy. **All school staff will let children take their own medication when they need to.**

Record Keeping

At the beginning of each school year, or when a child joins the school, parents are asked if their child has asthma. If this is the case these parents are issued with a National Asthma Campaign school card to give to their child's GP or asthma nurse to complete and return to school. From this information the school keeps its asthma register which is available for all the school staff. Cards are then sent to parents on an annual basis to update. If medication changes in between times, parents are asked to inform the school.

PE and Games

Taking part in sports and physical activity is an essential part of school life. Teachers are aware of which children have asthma from their asthma register. Children with asthma are encouraged to participate fully in PE and games. Each child's inhaler will be labelled and kept in a box at the site of the lesson. If a child needs to use their inhaler during the lesson they will be encouraged to do so.

The school Environment

The school does all it can to ensure the school environment is favourable to children with asthma. The school does not keep furry or feathery pets and has a non-smoking policy. As far as possible the school does not use chemicals in science and art lessons that are potential triggers for children with asthma. Children are encouraged to leave the room and go and sit in the welfare room if particular fumes trigger the asthma.

Making the School Asthma Friendly

The school ensures that all children understand asthma. Asthma is included in PHSE lessons to provide children with relevant information. Children with asthma and their friends are encouraged to learn about asthma; information for children and teens can be accessed from the asthma website www.asthma.org.uk

Whole school annual asthma update training.

Asthma Champion to attend annual update with Asthma team.

When a child is Falling Behind in Lessons

If a child is missing a lot of time from school because of asthma or is tired in class because of disturbed sleep and falling behind in class, the teacher will initially speak to the parents. If appropriate the teacher will then talk to the Welfare Assistant and the SENCO about the situation. The school recognises that it is possible for children with asthma to have Special Educational Needs because of asthma.

Emergency Asthma Packs

Emergency packs are accessible in the corridors between the Year 3 classes, Year 6 classes, and Year 4 & 5 terrapin building. Included in the packs are 2 spacers, 2 inhaler, a list of children who are asthmatic and a book which is signed and dated when the pack has been used.

Emergency inhalers are checked once a month for expiry dates. The emergency packs are to be used if you cannot gain quick access to the child's own inhaler.

Revised 20.4.2021 due to Covid 19" received from Healthy London Partnership.

It states;

“Given the risk with Covid and especially as children can have asymptomatic disease, salbutamol inhalers and spacers should be single patient use only” and then the spacer is handed to the child to keep and dispose of the inhaler.

Asthma Attacks

All staff that come into contact with children with asthma need to know what to do in an asthma attack. The school ensures the following procedure, which is clearly displayed in all classrooms.

- Keep the child where they are – treat at the scene
- Ensure that the reliever inhaler is taken immediately
- Stay calm and reassure the child
- Help the child to breathe by ensuring tight clothing is loosened

After the Attack

Minor attacks should not interrupt a child's involvement in school. When they feel better they can return to school activities.

- The child's parents need to be told about the attack
- Staff need to inform the Welfare Assistant

Emergency Procedure

Give the child up to 10 puffs if:

- The child is either distressed or unable to talk
- The child is getting exhausted
- You have any doubts at all about the child's condition DIAL 999

Author(s)	
Date:	10 th March 2021
Review frequency:	Annually
Review date:	March 2024
Governor agreement:	

March 2021