

Asthma Policy



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Policy amended	June 2026
To be reviewed	June 2028

INTRODUCTION

This policy has been written in line with our Vision and Values Document.

At St Philips our Vision and Values state that

-  **Happiness, Love and Security abound**
-  **Everyone is special**
-  **Every achievement is celebrated**
-  **Relationships and teamwork matter**
-  **A beacon of light in the community**
-  **Christ in everything we do**

As a staff we are committed to providing rich and exciting learning experiences within an emotionally literate environment, which engage, challenge and meet the needs of **all** children, building their self esteem and so increasing their motivation to learn.

THIS SCHOOL:

- recognises that asthma is a widespread, serious but controllable condition and the school welcomes all pupils with asthma;
- ensures 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;
- recognises that pupils with asthma need immediate access to inhalers at all times; keeps a record of all pupils with asthma and the medicines they take;
- ensures that the whole school environment, including the physical, social, sporting and educational environment, is favourable to pupils with asthma;
- ensures that all pupils understand asthma;
- ensures that all staff (including supply teachers and support staff) who come into contact with pupils with asthma know what to do in an asthma attack;
- understands that pupils with asthma may experience bullying and has procedures in place to prevent this;
- will 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

BACKGROUND

This policy has been written with advice from the Department of Children, Schools and Families, Asthma UK, the local authority, local healthcare professionals, the school health service, parents/carers, the governing body and pupils.

This school recognises that asthma is a widespread, serious but also can be a controllable condition affecting many pupils at the school. The school positively welcomes all pupils with asthma. This school encourages pupils with asthma to achieve their potential in all aspects of school life by having a clear policy that is understood by school staff, their employers (the local authority) and pupils. Supply teachers and new staff are also made aware of the policy. All staff who come into contact with pupils with asthma are provided with training from a school nurse who has had asthma training.

All staff are Asthma trained annually and are kept up to date with any updates which may occur to enable school to keep a clear and accurate record of their needs. Training needs will be risk assessed annually in liaison with the school nurse.

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 in a designated drawer for access.
- Parents/carers are advised to ensure that the school is provided with a labelled spare reliever inhaler. All inhalers brought in to school need to be labelled clearly with the child's name, this must be completed by the parent/carer. It is the Parents responsibility to ensure that the inhaler is in date.
- 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 inhaler when they need to whilst being monitored by the adult member of the class.
- School staff will ensure that children with asthma take their inhaler with them whenever they are going off site, school trip etc. For younger children the inhaler will be held by a designated adult.

RECORD KEEPING

- At the beginning of each school year or when a new child joins the school, parents/carers are asked if their child has any medical conditions including asthma on their enrolment form.
- All parents/carers of children with asthma are asked to provide details of their child's condition including any asthma triggers and any medication they are required to take. From this information the school keeps its asthma register, which is available to all school staff. A letter is sent annually to parents asking them to update our records. Parents/carers are also asked to update school if their child's medication, or how much they take, changes during the year.

EXERCISE AND ACTIVITY – PE AND GAMES

- Taking part in sports, games and activities is an essential part of school life for all pupils. All staff are aware of which children in their class does have asthma.
- Pupils with asthma are encouraged to participate fully in all PE lessons. Staff will remind pupils whose asthma is triggered by exercise to take their reliever inhaler before the lesson and to thoroughly warm up and down before and after the lesson. It is agreed with staff that each pupil's inhaler will be easily accessible if required. If a pupil needs to use their inhaler during a lesson they will be encouraged to do so.

OUT OF HOURS SPORT

- 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 involves pupils with asthma as much as possible in after school clubs.
- PE teachers, classroom teachers and out-of hours school sport coaches are aware of the potential triggers for pupils with asthma when exercising, tips to minimise these triggers and what to do in the event of an asthma attack.

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 definitive 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.

MAKING THE SCHOOL ASTHMA FRIENDLY

- The school ensures that all pupils understand asthma. Asthma is included in our PSHE curriculum.

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, 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.
- Staff will inform parents if their child has an asthma attack. The school office will be informed and Parents will be telephoned.
- In the case of an emergency a member of staff will ring 999 and follow the school's usual emergency procedure.

Head Teacher.....

Chair of Governors.....