

# CHALFORD HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

## Asthma Policy

Reviewed: October 2016  
Review Date: October 2019

Chalford Hill School recognises that asthma is a widespread, serious but controllable condition affecting some 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 (Gloucestershire County Council) and pupils. Supply staff and new staff are also made aware of the policy.

### **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 under teacher supervision.

Parent/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 pupil's own inhaler runs out, 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 education 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 the child joins the school, parents/carers are asked if their child has any medical conditions including asthma on their enrolment form. From this information the school keeps its asthma register, which is available to all school staff.

### **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 are aware of which pupils have asthma from the schools asthma register.

Pupils with asthma are encouraged to participate fully in all PE lessons. Teachers will remind pupils whose asthma is triggered by exercise to take their reliever inhaler before lesson, and to thoroughly warm up and down before and after the lesson. If a pupil needs to use their inhaler during a lesson they will be encouraged to do so.

### **Out of hours sport**

It is important that the school involve pupils with asthma as much as possible in after school clubs.

Teachers 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 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. 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 co-ordinator, Mrs Wynn, 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.

In the event of an asthma attack the school follows the procedures outlined by Gloucestershire County Council and the Cotswold and Vale NHS Primary Care Trust. This procedure is visibly displayed in the staffroom, school office and every classroom.