



White Ash Primary School

ASTHMA POLICY
Reviewed; June 2026
Review date: June 2027

This policy has been written with advice from the Department of Education and Employment, Asthma UK, the local education authority, the school, health service, parents, the governing body and pupils.

This school recognises that asthma is an important condition affecting many school children and 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 education authority) and pupils. Supply teachers and new staff are also made aware of the policy during induction procedures. All staff that come into contact with pupils with asthma are provided with training on asthma from the school nurse or asthma specialist nurse. Training is updated once a year.

Medication

Reliever inhalers are kept in clear bags, 1 per pupil, along with their completed asthma care plan within the pupil's classroom. All inhalers should be labelled with the child's name and supplied in the original box from the chemist. Once paperwork is checked by two members of trained staff, one trained member of school staff will administer the reliever inhaler as prescribed. This is then recorded on an administration of medication chart in the classes asthma file and kept in the nurse's room.

Record Keeping

At the beginning of each school year, or when pupils join White Ash school, parents are asked if their child has asthma. The school nurse/ School Staff will require the latest Asthma careplan paperwork from the pupil's GP. This will be kept with the pupil's inhaler in the designated box and clear bag plus a copy alongside the administration of medication chart in the asthma file.

The child's details will also be recorded on the school's asthma register which is available to all school staff. If medication changes in between this time parents are asked to inform school.

P.E

Taking part in sport is an essential part of school life. PE teachers are aware of which pupils have asthma from the asthma register. Children with asthma are encouraged to participate fully in PE. Teachers will remind pupils whose asthma is triggered by exercise to take their reliever inhalers before the lesson and complete a warm up of a couple of short sprints over 5 minutes before the lesson. Each child's inhaler will be labelled and

kept in a clear bag 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 that it can to ensure the school environment is favourable to pupils with asthma. The school does not keep furry and 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 pupils with asthma. Pupils are encouraged to leave the room and go and sit in an appropriate environment if particular fumes trigger their asthma.

Making the School Asthma Friendly

The school ensures that all pupils understand asthma as appropriate. Asthma can be included in science, design technology, geography, history and PE lessons of the national curriculum. It is the right of every pupil to have access to a broad and balanced curriculum as well as access to the out of school activities in accordance with the school's policy on educational visits. Staff must be aware of the medication the pupils with asthma will need to take on the visit. These procedures also apply to pupils participating in a mainstream link programme.

When Pupils Fall Behind in Lessons

If pupils are absent from school on several occasions because of their asthma or they are falling behind in class due to tiredness because of disturbed nights sleep, the class teacher will initially talk to parents. If required the teacher will then talk to the school nurse about the situation.

The school recognises that it is possible for pupils with asthma to have additional needs because of their asthma.

Asthma Attacks

All staff that come into contact with pupils with asthma know what to do in the event of an asthma attack. The school follows the following procedure:



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Asthma Protocol

To be clearly displayed in all classrooms:

Asthma Attack

1. Give the child 2 puffs of their blue inhaler immediately
2. Sit the child down and make sure that he/she is comfortable and ensure that all items of tight clothing are loosened or appropriately removed (Do not lie him/her down)
3. Ensure the child's airway is clear and his /her chin is not tucked into his/her chest
4. Stay calm and reassure the child at all times
5. If no immediate improvement is seen following the administering of the inhaler, continue to give 2 puffs of the blue reliever every 5 minutes until help arrives (Max 10 puffs)
6. If symptoms do not improve after 5 minutes send someone to dial 999 and request an ambulance
7. Contact the child's parents and make them aware of the asthma attack

After the attack

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

Emergency Inhalers in school

3 Emergency Salbutamol inhalers will be kept in school and are not locked away for easy access

1. Nurses Room
2. The Pods
3. EYFS store cupboard

This should only be used by children who have been diagnosed with asthma, and prescribed a reliever inhaler; OR who have been prescribed a reliever inhaler and for whom written parental consent for use of the emergency inhaler

Please see extra information in-

"Guidance on the use of emergency salbutamol inhalers in schools"

Emergency Procedure- Locate school nurse or a qualified first aid member of staff.

If you have any further concerns about the pupil: eg

- the reliever has no effect after 5 to 10 minutes
- the pupil is distressed and unable to talk
- the pupil is getting exhausted

Call the child's GP (number on asthma card/asthma register) or dial 999 and ask for an ambulance.