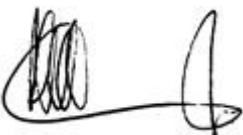


Safeguarding - Asthma Policy

SCHOOL

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Headteacher	Chair of Governors	Review Dates
		Last Review: July 2021
Lisa Keighley	Philip Cavalier-Lumley	Next Review: July 2024

1. Policy

At Blakehill Primary School we respect and value all children and are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all our pupils so they can learn, in a relaxed and secure atmosphere. We believe every pupil should be able to participate in all school activities in an enjoyable and safe environment and be protected from harm. This is the responsibility of every adult employed by, or invited to deliver services at Blakehill Primary School. We recognise our responsibility to safeguard all who access school and promote the welfare of all our pupils by protecting them from physical, sexual and emotional abuse, neglect and bullying.

This policy is for any pupil who requires additional support due to having an asthmatic condition.

2. Purpose

At Blakehill we will consider medical advice on the best procedures to support asthmatic pupils in school to enable them to take part as fully and safely as possible in all our activities. For such pupils school will ensure:

- The specific medical needs (as advised by parents/ guardians) are recorded and stored on the main school computer. This information will also be made available to alert class teachers
- Those pupils with inhalers know how to access their inhalers. This is to ensure that they always have immediate access to them. This includes the inhalers being taken out of school for off-site activities
- Parents/ guardians will be informed of the arrangements by letter. Information for each pupil will be updated whenever school is advised of any changes and will be reviewed at the beginning of each academic year.

3. Scope

This policy applies to all pupils, teaching, non-teaching staff, volunteers and Governors working within Blakehill Primary School.

4. Principles

At Blakehill we treat and care for all our pupils. This policy covers the procedures we follow for pupils with Asthma.

5. Responsibilities

The Governing Body has:

- delegated powers and responsibilities to the Headteacher to ensure this policy is adhered
- delegated powers and responsibilities to the Headteacher to ensure all school personnel and stakeholders are aware of and comply with this policy
- responsibility for ensuring that the school complies with all equalities legislation
- responsibility for ensuring this policy and all policies are maintained and updated regularly
- responsibility for ensuring all policies are made available to parents
- responsible for the effective implementation, monitoring and evaluation of this policy.

Role of the Headteacher and the Senior Leadership Team

The Headteacher and the Senior Leadership Team will:

- ensure all school personnel, pupils and parents are aware of and comply with this policy
- provide guidance and support to all staff
- monitor the effectiveness of this policy
- report to the Governing Body on the success and development of this policy.

Role of School Personnel

School personnel will:

- comply with all aspects of this policy
- report and deal with all incidents of discrimination
- report any concerns they have on any aspect of the school community.

Role of Pupils

Pupils will:

- be aware of and comply with this policy.

Role of Parents/Carers

Parents/carers will:

- be aware of and comply with this policy
- take responsibility to ensure school have an in date inhaler
- ensure Inhalers are in date and stay in school all year but will go out of date as they usually have a 12 month expiry date
- take responsibility to check the child's inhaler dates, especially for children who hardly use them
- Supply the school with the correct medication, dosage and dosage timing for their child
- inform the class teacher of any medical issues concerning their child.

6. Procedures

1. Obtaining and Recording Accurate Information

As part of the school's admission procedures, we will ask all new parents whether their child has any medical conditions/complaints. This will be recorded on the pupil's personal file. A special/ additional needs record will be kept if appropriate and will be updated as stated above. The record will show:

- Personal details;
- Hospital reference (if applicable);
- Any treatment needed regularly;
- Relief treatment if required;
- Any care plans / specialist intervention in place.

2. Access to Medicines and Inhalers

Where asthma medicines/inhalers are necessary (i.e. prescribed by a Doctor), pupils will need access to their location. Inhalers will be stored in the classroom under the supervision of the class teacher. All inhalers and capsules will be labelled with the pupil's name and class. There are two main types of inhalers:

- **Relievers:** These relieve the symptoms of asthma – common examples are called 'Ventolin' and Bricanyl' and are usually BLUE in colour.
- **Preventers:** These relieve inflammation and are clearly designed to prevent the onset of asthma – common preventers are 'Beclafort', 'Becotide' and 'Intal' and are usually BROWN in colour.

N.B. Staff generally do not administer medicines to pupils however pupils will be allowed to self-administer asthma medication if written authority to do so is provided by their parents. (See school's *Administration of Medication Policy*).

4. Sports & Exercise

Staff are made aware of those pupils with asthma who may become wheezy during exercise and who may need to use their inhaler before taking part. Breathlessness occurring during an activity will result in the pupil being withdrawn from the activity for that lesson and monitoring by a member of staff qualified in first aid.

5. Animals

Staff are aware that some animals can cause a sudden and severe asthmatic reaction. Pupils, who react in this way should not approach, handle or care for the animals. To avoid problems pets are not kept in the classrooms but in special designated rooms where children and staff do not normally work. This also applies to any incubator that is used to hatch chicks. Parents/carers are advised that dogs are prohibited at all times from all areas of the school site.

6. Returning From Absence Due to Illness

We do not encourage pupils to miss lessons or to stay indoors during break and lunchtimes, so before a pupil returns to school after an illness, parents should ensure that he/she are well and can cope with the whole school day. In certain circumstances a phased return may be mutually agreed between school and parents. This is usually on the advice of a suitably qualified health professional.

7. Long-term / Acute Medical Problems

Pupils known to be suffering from asthmatic conditions that might require emergency treatment at any time, are recorded on school's computer system and teachers are made aware of the condition, the treatment and any other relevant information. Teachers **MUST** ensure they keep up-to-date with such information and the administration staff will ensure supply teachers receive this information. All emergency use of inhalers will be recorded on school's Medication Administration Record Sheet.

8. Cleaning Regimes

Excessive dust from 'walked in' dirt (clay particles) contributes to respiratory problems and should be removed by school's regime of vacuuming on a regular basis rather than by normal sweeping. Filters on warm air central heating systems will be checked and cleaned regularly in particularly dusty environments. Such filters will always be cleaned before the heating is switched on in the autumn term. "Deep clean" regimes of all rooms in school will be implemented throughout the academic year when the site is closed to pupils. School's site manager is aware of and will ensure such regimes are adhered.

7. Monitoring & Review

This policy and its effectiveness will be reviewed at least every three years, but also when the need arises by the Governing Body.

8. Distribution

Raising Awareness of this Policy

We will raise awareness of this policy via:

- the School Prospectus
- the school website
- the Staff Handbook
- meetings with parents such as introductory, transition, parent-teacher consultations and periodic curriculum workshops.

This policy will be available on the school website and from the School Business Manager.

9. Contacts

Please contact a member of the Governing body or the Headteacher if you require support or guidance on this policy.

10. Cross Referencing

This policy refers to the following other school policies:

- *Safeguarding Policy*
- *Administering Medicines Policy*
- *Medical Administration Protocol*

11. Appendices

None