

ST. WILLIAM'S ASTHMA POLICY

At St. William's we recognize that asthma is a widespread, serious but controllable condition affecting some pupils in our 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 staff and pupils. Supply teachers and new staff are also made aware of the policy.

ASTHMA MEDICINES

Immediate access to reliever medicines is essential. The reliever inhalers of younger children are kept in the classroom in a visible place. Parents are asked to ensure that the school is provided with a **labelled** space reliever inhaler. The class teacher will hold this separately in case the pupils own inhaler runs out, or is lost. All inhalers must be labelled with the child's name by the parent and renewed when out of date. All school staff will let pupils take their own medicines when they need to. Only reliever inhalers (blue) should be kept in school. Preventative inhalers (brown) should be used at home.

RECORD KEEPING

At the beginning of each school year or when a child joins the school, parents are asked if their child has any medical conditions including asthma on their enrolment form. Parents are asked to update this information if there are any changes to their medication during the year. Class teachers hold this medical information in their class info file which is renewed each year. Any child diagnosed with asthma must have an asthma care plan which is kept in school. This explains severity of condition, triggers (if known and dosage). A list of children with diagnosed asthma is kept in school office.

EXERCISE AND ACTIVITY (INCLUDING OUT OF HOURS SPORTS/CLUBS)

At St. William's all pupils with asthma are encouraged to participate fully in all P.E. lessons and out of hours sports/clubs. The child's inhaler should be kept within easy access of the lesson. If a pupil needs to use their inhaler during the lesson they will be encouraged to do so. If a P.E. lesson is held outdoors or at other sporting venues then inhalers must always be taken and kept safely by an adult.

TRIPS/EDUCATIONAL VISITS INCLUDING OFF SITE VISITS

All inhalers and medicines must be taken and kept safely by the child, if old enough to be responsible, or by the adult who is responsible for the child/children on any visit out of school.

SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT

St. William's does all that it can to ensure the school environment is favourable to pupils with asthma and it has a definitive no-smoking policy.

WHEN A PUPIL IS FALLING BEHIND IN LESSONS

If a pupil at St. William's misses 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 to work out how to prevent their child from falling behind. If it becomes necessary the teacher will then talk to the school nurse and SENCO about the pupils needs. (St. William's recognises that it is possible for pupils with asthma to have special educational needs because of this condition).

ASTHMA ATTACKS

All staff at St. William's who come into contact with pupils with asthma know what to do in the event of an asthma attack. They are provided with training from a qualified nurse. Training will be updated once a year. It is imperative that children have an up to date inhaler in school at all times in case of emergency use.