

Higham Ferrers Nursery and Infant School

“Together, we enjoy learning in a happy, caring and friendly
environment”



ASTHMA POLICY

This Policy was agreed by the Governing Body in
Summer 2 (2016)

It will be reviewed in Summer 2 (2017).

Signed:
(Chair of Governors)

07/07/2016

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Higham Ferrers Nursery and Infant School

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

Higham Ferrers Nursery and Infant 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 reliever 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 a 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.
- Understand 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/cares, employers of school staff, doctors, nurses and pupils to ensure the policy is planned, implemented and maintained successfully.

2.0 OUR VISION STATEMENT ABOUT EQUALITY

Higham Ferrers Nursery and Infant school seeks to foster warm, welcoming and respectful environments, which allow us to question and challenge discrimination and inequality, resolve conflicts peacefully and work and learn free from harassment and violence.

We recognise that there are similarities and differences between individuals and groups but we will strive to ensure that our differences do not become barriers to participation, access and learning and to create inclusive processes and practices, where the varying needs of individuals and groups are identified and met. We therefore cannot achieve equality for all by treating everyone the same. We will build on our similarities and seek

enrichment from our differences and so promote understanding and learning between and towards others to create cohesive communities.

3.0 ASTHMA MEDICINES

Immediate access to reliever medicines is essential. The reliever inhalers of younger children are kept in the classroom in a secure place (medical box) accessed by adults only.

Our school staff are not required to administer asthma medicines to pupils (except in an emergency). All school staff will be present to support pupils to take their own medicines when they need to.

4.0 RECORD KEEPING

At the beginning of each school year or when a child joins the school, parents/carers are asked if their child has any medical conditions including asthma on their enrolment form.

5.0 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 teachers at the school are aware of which pupils have asthma from the school's medical list supplied in September and if necessary throughout the year. Pupils with asthma are encouraged to participate fully in all PE lessons.

6.0 OUT OF HOURS

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 involve pupils with asthma as much as possible in after school clubs.

7.0 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 definite 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.

8.0 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 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.

9.0 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 a clear procedure visibly displayed in the first aid area and in every classroom throughout school.

10.0 ACCESS AND REVIEW OF POLICY

The Asthma Policy will be accessible to all staff and the community through school's website. Hard copies can be obtained through the school office. This policy will be reviewed on a two yearly cycle.

Booklets available in the school office from Asthma UK are:

- *School Policy Guidelines*
- *Asthma Awareness for School Staff*