



LIMES FARM JUNIOR SCHOOL

ASTHMA POLICY

Background

Limes Farm Junior School recognises that asthma is a widespread, serious but controllable condition affecting many 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 (the local education authority) and pupils. Supply teachers and new staff are also made aware of the policy. All staff who come into contact with pupils with asthma are provided with training on asthma during First Aid Courses which run biannually.

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 during school visits.
- Parents/carers are asked to ensure that the school is provided with an up to date, labelled reliever inhaler. **Clearly labelled asthma medicines are stored in the classroom of the pupil who requires their pump. A staff member will record the dosage in a book assigned to each class bubble. Mrs Andrews will monitor the asthma record book per class, looking at the frequency of usage and will contact parents as required.**
- School staff are not required to administer asthma medicines to pupils (except in an emergency), **and as a school, we no longer administer any medication to pupils unless there are exceptional reasons known to the school and approved by the Headteacher. Staff asked to administer medicines under these conditions 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 a child joins the school, parents/carers are asked if their child has any medical conditions including asthma on their enrolment form.

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 PE teacher at the school is aware of which pupils have asthma from the school's asthma register.

Updates made due to Covid-19-Sept 2020

Pupils with asthma are encouraged to participate fully in all PE lessons. PE teacher will remind pupils whose asthma is triggered by exercise to take their reliever inhaler before the 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.

- Classroom teachers follow the same principles as described above for games and activities involving physical activity.

Out-of-hours sport

- 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.
- PE teachers, classroom teachers and out-of hours school sport coaches 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 does not keep furry or feathery animals and smoke free 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 **outside of the classroom** 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 Inclusion Manager 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.

This policy will be reviewed every 3 years unless there are reasons to review the policy earlier.