

## **ASTHMA POLICY**

### **INTRODUCTION**

At Jackfield Infant School we welcome all pupils who suffer with asthma. We recognise that asthma is an important condition and all staff have received training in how to deal with a child who may suffer an attack.

### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of the policy is to ensure that all staff, parents and governors are aware of the contents of the policy and recognise the importance of the policy.

### **AIM**

- To encourage children with asthma to participate fully in school life
- To recognise the need for immediate access to inhalers
- To attempt to provide a school environment as favourable as possible to asthmatic children
- To provide training for staff to promote a good understanding of asthma and what to do in the event of an attack and give, if necessary, emergency treatment
- To inform parents of attacks and any treatment given
- To work with parents, school governors, school staff and School Health Service to ensure the successful implementation of the school Asthma Policy

### **ROLE OF THE SCHOOL**

We will not assume responsibility for the routine treatment of asthma which remains the prerogative of the parent in conjunction with the child's G.P.

### **ORGANISATION**

It is the responsibility of parents/carers to inform the school that their child is asthmatic.

It is the responsibility of the school to provide parents/carers with an asthma care plan.

It is the responsibility of the parents/carers to return the signed care plan and to leave an inhaler, with a prescription label identifying the child, in school. All children who are diagnosed as asthmatic **must have their own inhaler in school at all times**. It is the responsibility of parents/carers to check medication expiry dates.

On receipt of the signed care plan and inhaler, with a prescription label identifying the child, it is the responsibility of the school to add a child to the asthma register and to follow the procedure below as appropriate.

Once informed by parents/carers, class teachers are responsible for ensuring that children are added to/taken off the asthma register as appropriate.

Parents/carers will sign a notification slip if their child no longer has asthma and does not require an inhaler or asthma medication in school.

## **PROCEDURE**

A child who is known to be displaying asthmatic symptoms will be accompanied by an adult at all times.

If a child displays asthmatic symptoms they will be ~~handed their inhaler and~~ supported in administering their medication as appropriate. The stages of asthma control, as detailed on the asthma care plan, will be followed as necessary. See attached Asthma Care Plan sheet.

~~If symptoms persist, parents/carers will be notified to come to school immediately. A second dose will be administered.~~

In the case of an emergency, the school will call emergency services and parents/carers immediately.

A record will be kept in each classroom of any medication given including the date, time, supporting adult and medication administered.

Parents will be notified verbally on the same day about medication that has been administered. Staff will sign to say that parents have been informed.

*Emergency inhaler* - if the child's inhaler is not available or is unusable, the child will receive appropriate medication from an inhaler held by the school for such emergencies. Consent for the use of this inhaler will be part of the child's individual asthma care plan. It is the responsibility of the school to monitor the expiry date of any emergency inhaler.

This policy will be reviewed annually.