



Nursted Community Primary School

School Asthma Policy for Children & Young People

Policy adopted by the Governor Body on : ____22nd May 2024__

The Policy will next be reviewed: _____As needed

Headteacher's Signature: _____KV__

Chair of Governors' Signature: _____AG_____

Last amended		
By	When	Main changes
KV	20.5.24	formatting

**Nursted Community Primary School
School Asthma Policy for Children & Young People**

Making Our School an Asthma Friendly School

School: Nursted Community Primary School

Headteacher: Kay Vousden

Asthma Champion(s): Cornelia Ayles

Date of Asthma Friendly School Accreditation:

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1. Introduction

Asthma is the most common chronic childhood condition affecting 1 in 11 children with 2-3 children having asthma in every classroom. Compared to other developed countries, children and young people in the UK have been shown to have worse asthma care and outcomes. The National Review of Asthma Deaths (NRAD) identified that there were things that could have been done to prevent children and young people dying in a significant number of cases. Whilst asthma deaths are thankfully rare, children with poorly controlled or severe asthma are more likely to miss school with research studies suggesting asthma is responsible for 18% of school absences.

Schools play a huge role in a young person's life and by educating our staff about asthma and becoming an Asthma Friendly School (AFS) there are several significant benefits.

2. Aims of Asthma Friendly School programme

The aims of the AFS programme are:

- To reduce avoidable harm to children and improve quality of life
- To reduce asthma related school absences
- To promote good asthma management for children and young people
- To increase awareness of asthma among staff that encounter young people
- To increase the number of Asthma Friendly Schools across Bath, North-East Somerset, Swindon, and Wiltshire (as part of a growing community of practice)

3. Requirements for Asthma Friendly School Accreditation

The following criteria are required to reach our AFS accreditation:

- a) Our school has an Asthma Policy (this document)
- b) Our school has a register of all students with asthma
- c) Our school has emergency asthma kits available
- d) Our students with asthma all have a personalised asthma action plan
- e) Our staff at the school have received asthma training

3.1 School Asthma Policy

The template for this school asthma policy was produced for all schools within the Bath and North-East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire Integrated Care System area based on national guidance.

Further background and information about supporting pupils in schools with medical conditions is available from the Department of Education:

[Supporting pupils with medical conditions at school - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/supporting-pupils-with-medical-conditions-at-school)

3.2 School Asthma Register

The asthma school champion(s) is responsible for ensuring there is an asthma register in place for all children and young people who have been diagnosed with asthma. This register should include:

- Name
- Date of birth
- Personalised asthma action plan (PAAP)
- Location of medication kept at school
- Expiry date of medication kept at school

For children and young people who carry their own inhalers as part of their PAAP (usually by key stage 2), their inhaler and spacer device should be available to use in school provided by their parent/carer. If the pupil is noted to be using their inhaler more than usual, then this should be discussed with the pupil and their parent/carer.

3.3 School Asthma Emergency Kits

In 2015, the Department of Health produced guidance regarding the emergency use of salbutamol inhalers in schools:

[Guidance on the use of emergency salbutamol inhalers in schools \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/364242/guidance-on-the-use-of-emergency-salbutamol-inhalers-in-schools.pdf)

At least three asthma emergency kits are recommended with each kit consisting of:

- Asthma register
- Spacer device
- Salbutamol 100 microgram/puff metered dose inhaler
- Information leaflet/reminder on how to administer
- Asthma exacerbation management plan
- Inhaler actuation chart
- Template letter to inform parents/carers that asthma treatment administered

Emergency kits can only be used for children and young people diagnosed with asthma and prescribed a salbutamol inhaler. All children and young people with asthma will have letters sent home to parents/carers with information about asthma friendly schools (including emergency kits) and they can choose to opt out of consenting.

Location of school asthma emergency kit:

3.4 Personalised Asthma Action Plan for all Students with Asthma

Every child or young person who has been diagnosed with asthma should have a personalised asthma action plan (PAAP) as per national guidance. Asthma UK research has shown that possessing a PAAP makes you 4-times less likely to require a hospital admission. It should be completed by the healthcare professional who manages the pupil's asthma and could be their asthma nurse, GP, or Paediatrician. The PAAP should be reviewed at least annually with any updates clearly communicated. A copy of this PAAP should be accessible everywhere where they spend significant amounts of time.

Various PAAP's exist with the most popular ones used locally including:

- Healthier Together Personalised Asthma Action Plan – link [here](#)

- Asthma + Lung UK plan for children – link [here](#)
- Asthma + Lung UK plan for adults/ CYP 12 years old or over – link [here](#)
- My Symbicort SMART® Asthma Action Plan – link [here](#)

3.5 Asthma Training for Staff

A free e-learning resources has been developed in partnership with The George Coller Memorial Fund designed for anyone who supports CYP with asthma. This includes teachers and school support staff so everyone in the school setting should be encouraged to undertake this 45-minute training. For asthma friendly accreditation, 85% of staff are required to have completed this training. The training is available via the following link:

[Supporting Children's Health and Young People with Asthma \(educationforhealth.org\)](https://www.educationforhealth.org/asthma-training-for-staff)