

# Asthma Policy

**Reviewed:** March 2019

**Adopted by Governors:** Full Governing Body

**Full Governors Meeting:** 13<sup>th</sup> June 2019

**Kings Mill School & Residence**



## Policy Statement

This policy is based on guidance from Asthma UK and local healthcare and education professionals. It is based on the following documents: *Supporting pupils at school with medical conditions* (DfE September 2014) and *Guidance on the use of emergency salbutamol inhalers in schools* (DoH March 2015).

Kings Mill recognises that asthma and recurrent wheezing are important conditions affecting increasing numbers of school age children. This school welcomes pupils with asthma.

Kings Mill encourages all pupils to achieve their full potential in all aspects of life by having a clear policy and procedures that are understood by staff, parents / carers and pupils.

## Training

School and residence staff receive training on the signs and symptoms of asthma and how to treat it from the school nursing team/specialist nurses biannually. Where possible, any new staff will receive appropriate training on their appointment.

## Indemnity

Trained staff are able to administer asthma medication to pupils routinely and in an emergency where the appropriate medical consent has been provided by the parent/carer and agreed by the Headteacher. Staff who agree to administer asthma medication are insured by relevant authorities when acting in agreement with this policy.

All staff store and administer asthma medication in accordance with the *Administering, Storage & Management of Medication Policy* and allow pupils immediate access to their own asthma medication when they need it.

## Emergency Asthma Inhaler Kits

Four Emergency Asthma Inhaler kits have been purchased by the school and residence for emergency use as recommended in *Guidance on the use of emergency salbutamol inhalers in schools* (DoH March 2015). These have been sited at key locations in the school, student centre and residence. Contents will be checked on a termly basis for quantity of resources and expiry dates.

The emergency inhaler can only be administered to pupils who have been given the appropriate parent/carer consent and are on the schools asthma register.

In an emergency, where a pupil, who is a known asthmatic is experiencing significant symptoms and has not got their own blue inhaler with them or it is found to be empty, broken or out of date, it is acceptable to use the Kings Mill emergency inhaler and spacer.

It is acceptable to use the emergency inhaler in an emergency if it can be accessed sooner than the pupils own asthma medication.

If a pupils own asthma medication or the Kings Mill emergency inhaler cannot be accessed in a situation where a pupil who is on the asthma register, is having severe symptoms, it is acceptable to borrow a reliever inhaler and spacer from another pupil.

## **Record Keeping**

Parents/carers will be asked to complete a Pupil Medical Information and Care Plan, giving details of the condition and the treatment required. Information from this form will be given to the school nurse or other nominated personnel for review and used to compile an “Asthma Register” which is available for all school staff. This register will be updated at least annually or more frequently if required using the information supplied by the parent/carer.

Staff will record the administration of asthma medication in accordance with the *Administering, Storage & Management of Medication Policy* (Kings Mill June 2017).

## **School Trips/Residential Visits**

No pupil will be denied the opportunity to take part in school trips/residential visits because of asthma, unless so advised by their GP or consultant.

The pupil’s reliever inhaler will be readily available to them throughout the trip, being carried by either the pupil themselves (were appropriate permission has been sort) or the supervising adult.

For residential visits, staff will be advised in the use of regular controller treatments, as well as emergency management.

It is the responsibility of the parent/carer to provide written information about all asthma medication required by their child for the duration of the trip. Parents must be responsible for ensuring an adequate supply of medication with the pharmacist instructions is provided.

Group leaders will have appropriate contact numbers with them.

## **Responsibilities**

It is the parent/carers responsibility to notify Kings Mill of any changes to their child’s medical condition or any changes to their child’s medication or care plan.

## **Compliance**

This policy complies with the statutory requirements laid out in the document: *Supporting Pupils at School with Medical Conditions September 2014* (DfE) and the School Partnership and local authority guidance: *Managing Chronic Health Conditions & Infection Control in Schools January 2014* and *Managing Medicines in Schools January 2014*.