



## Denton West End Primary School

### ASTHMA POLICY

#### RATIONALE

The school:

- Recognises that asthma is a widespread, serious, but controllable condition and welcomes all learners with asthma
- Ensures that learners with asthma can and do participate fully in all aspects of school life, including PE, science, visits, outings and out of hours school activities
- Recognises that learners with asthma need immediate access to reliever inhalers at all times
- Keeps a record (asthma register) of all learners with asthma and the medicines they take

#### ASTHMA MEDICINES

Immediate access to reliever medicines is essential. Learners with asthma have immediate access to their reliever inhalers which are kept in an agreed safe and accessible place in the classroom. Parents/carers are asked to ensure that the school is provided with a labelled reliever inhaler which can be kept in school.

Although school staff are not required to administer asthma medicines to learners (except in an emergency), staff are willing to do this with children who are unable to administer the medication themselves in exceptional circumstances e.g. nursery children or children who have just been diagnosed.

**It is the parents' responsibility to ensure the school is notified if their child's asthma, that medication is up to date and replenished when empty.**

#### 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 contact form. Parents/carers will also be asked to complete a school asthma form on an annual basis. Children with asthma will be put on the school's asthma register. Members of staff are made aware of children with asthma and those who have medication in school.

#### EXERCISE AND ACTIVITY

Taking part in sports, games and activities is an essential part of school life for all learners. All teachers know which children in their class have asthma and teachers who cover are made aware of which pupils have asthma from the school's asthma register.

Learners with asthma are encouraged to participate fully in all PE lessons. PE teachers will remind learners whose asthma is triggered by exercise to take their reliever inhaler before the lesson and to warm up and down before and after the lesson.

Whenever possible the learner's labelled inhaler will be kept at the site of the PE lesson and the child will be encouraged to use it as necessary during the lesson. The same principles will be followed by class teachers for any activities in school involving physical activity.

Any visiting staff teaching PE or any physical activity eg sports coaches will be made aware of the asthma register and the school's asthma policy and procedures.

**OUT OF HOURS ACTIVITIES**

Learners with asthma have access to after school activities.

**SCHOOL VISITS**

When children go off site for school visits the class teacher will check that the children who use inhalers take them on the trip. This applies to all off site visits whatever the duration and includes residential trips.

**ASTHMA ATTACKS**

In the event of an asthma attack and if the reliever medication has not successfully relieved the symptoms an ambulance will be called and parents will be notified as soon as reasonably possible.