



SOUTH GROVE PRIMARY

ASTHMA POLICY

Date Governors Agreed	8th November 2018
Date to be Reviewed	8th November 2019
Signed by Headteacher	
Signed by Chair of Governors	

ASTHMA POLICY FOR SOUTH GROVE PRIMARY SCHOOL

This school

- welcomes all pupils with asthma
- will encourage and help children with asthma to participate fully in all aspects of school life.
- recognises that immediate access to inhalers is needed if required.
- will do all it can to make sure that the school environment is favourable to children with asthma.
- will ensure that other children understand asthma so that they can support their friends in school with asthma.
- has a clear understanding of what to do in the event of a child having an asthma attack.
- will work in partnership with parents, school governors, health professionals, school staff and children to ensure the successful implementation of the school asthma policy.

Agreeing the policy

The policy has been fully discussed with staff, governors, parents and the school nursing service.

Operating the policy

All staff, governors and parents of children with asthma must be given a copy of the policy.

There will be a training session for all staff, teaching and non-teaching so that they feel confident about implementing the policy. Training needs will be reviewed.

New staff need to be inducted into the policy.

Guidance on what to do in the event of an asthma attack must be given to all staff.

Making our school asthma friendly

Things that trigger asthma attacks, sometimes found in schools include cigarette smoke, animals, chemicals and strong smells. Avoiding these in the school environment can go some way to lessening the incidence of asthma attacks.

The school has:

- a no smoking policy on school premises
- ensured that as far as possible any school pets are housed away from the

classroom.

- ensured that fumes will not be released into the atmosphere from experiments, building or cleaning work.
- keep records of children with asthma and the medication they take
- staff will supervise children whilst they take their own medication when they need to

Medication and Inhalers

Information

There are two types of treatments, both of which come as an inhaler.

Relievers - These medicines, sometimes called bronchodilators, quickly open up the narrowed airways and help the child's breathing difficulties. Generally speaking, relievers come in blue containers.

Preventers - These medicines are taken daily to make the airways less sensitive to the triggers. Generally speaking, preventers come in brown, red, purple and are not required in school.

Reliever inhalers are crucial for the successful management of asthma. Delay in taking reliever treatment, even for a few minutes, can lead to a severe attack.

Many children use a plastic spacer to help them take their inhaler more effectively.

If a child who does not have asthma 'experiments' with another child's asthma medication this will not be harmful. Relievers act simply to dilate or open up the airways and will not have an adverse effect on a child who does not have asthma.

The school requires that any pupil who has asthma has a prescribed pump and spacer kept in school at all times. This is labelled with the child's name and class. They are regularly checked for expiry dates by a member of staff. Parents are to ensure that all pumps are in date.

The school also has a generic pump which will only be used in an emergency situation e.g. where a child's pump has finished, expired or not in school at the time.

Please find the guidance on the use of Emergency Salbutamol inhalers in schools' March 2015.



Emergency Inhalers
at school March 2015.

Record Keeping

At the beginning of each school year, or when a child joins the school, parents are asked if their child has asthma. All parents of children with asthma are asked to complete and return the Asthma Form to the school and to supply their child's medication.

How to involve children who have asthma in sport and exercise

Children with asthma can suffer because many people think that their asthma prohibits them from joining in. The aim of full participation should be the goal for all but the most severely affected pupil with asthma. However, most young people with asthma can become wheezy during exercise. Taking a dose of 2 puffs of reliever can sometimes help prevent exercise-induced asthma.

- We will make sure that everyone involved in physical education is aware of the needs of children with asthma.

- Some children may bring their inhalers to the hall, the sports field or the swimming baths. All children must bring an inhaler on school trips, failure to do so may result in a child being unable to go on the trip.

- We will ensure that children who say they are too wheezy to continue take their reliever inhaler and rest until they feel better or take further action to ensure the episode settles down.

How to find out more about asthma

The major charity funding research into the causes and treatment of asthma in the United Kingdom is the National Asthma Campaign. It has a help line number for parents to ring.

Ring the Asthma UK Helpline, staffed by nurses, if you have any worries or want to know more about Asthma. Telephone 0300 222 5800.

Further information can be found at the websites below:

Website: www.asthma.org.uk

Website: www.asthma.org.uk/advice

This policy has been written with advice from the Department for Education and Employment, National Asthma Campaign, the local education authority, the school health service, parents, the governing body and pupils.

Ms J Maltwood
Headteacher

Date Governors Agreed:	8 th November 2018		
Date to be reviewed:	November 2019		
Head Teacher:		Date:	08.11.18
Chair of Governors:		Date:	08.11.18