 **Primary School** 

**Asthma Policy**

**March 2024**

*‘Inspiring A Love Of Learning’*

**Our School Vision is**

**We aspire to provide everyone with…**

* **an excellent holistic education through an inspiring, creative and ever evolving curriculum.**
* **an understanding that there is no limit to their potential.**
* **the foundations to face the various challenges of life and be respectful, responsible and caring citizens making a positive contribution to their community and wider society.**
* **a love of learning which continues to develop enquiring minds and enrich their lives.**



**Flintham Primary School Asthma Policy**

Flintham Primary School recognises that asthma is a widespread, serious but controllable condition affecting many pupils at the school. The school positively welcomes all pupils with asthma. The school encourages pupils with asthma to achieve their potential in all aspects of school life by having a clear policy that is understood by school staff and pupils.

**Asthma medicines**

* Immediate access to the Asthma medicines is essential. All pupils are encouraged to have 2 inhalers in school. All pupils with asthma are encouraged to keep an inhaler in the classroom in an easily accessible box unless otherwise advised. A second inhaler is kept in a box in the medical cupboard in the corridor.
* Parents/carers are asked to ensure that the school is provided with an in-date, labelled inhalers. Inhalers in school are checked biannually and parents contacted to replace any that have fallen out of date.
* School staff are not required, but are able to administer asthma medicines to pupils (except in an emergency and at EYFS and KS1), however staff at this school are happy to do this. School staff who agree to administer medicines are insured by RPA when acting in agreement with this policy. All school staff will let pupils take their own medicines if they are able to and when they need to.

**Record keeping**

* When joining the school (in Reception or at any other time), parents/carers are asked if their child has any medical conditions including asthma on their enrolment form.
* All parents/carers of children with asthma are given a School Asthma Card to complete and return to school. From this information the school keeps its asthma register, which is available to all school staff. Parents/carers are asked to update or exchange the card for a new one if their child’s medicines, or how much they take, changes during the year, and make the school aware of this.

**Exercise and activity – PE and games**

* Taking part in sports, games and activities is an essential part of school life for all pupils. All teachers know which children in their class have asthma and all external PE coaches at the school are made aware of which pupils have asthma from the school’s asthma register.
* Pupils with asthma are encouraged to participate fully in all PE lessons. Teachers and TAs will remind pupils whose asthma is triggered by exercise, to take their inhaler before the lesson, and to thoroughly warm up and down before and after the lesson. It is agreed with all staff that each pupil’s inhaler will be labelled and kept in a box at the site of the lesson. If a pupil needs to use their inhaler during a lesson they will be encouraged to do so and the box is placed where it is easily accessible.
* Classroom teachers follow the same principles as described above for games and activities involving physical activity.
* Teachers with children attending sports festivals/ competitions / swimming sessions will take the box of inhalers and ensure the children concerned know where the inhalers are and that they are easily accessible. Again, pupils whose asthma is triggered by exercise, are to take the relevant inhaler before the activity.

**Responsibilities for all School Staff:**

* understand the school asthma policy
* know which pupils they come into contact with have asthma
* know what to do in an asthma attack
* allow pupils with asthma immediate access to their reliever inhaler
* tell parents/carers if their child has had an asthma attack
* tell parents/carers if their child is using more reliever inhaler than they usually would
* ensure pupils have their asthma medicines with them when they go on a school trip or after school club
* be aware that a pupil may be tired because of night-time symptoms
* keep an eye out for pupils with asthma experiencing bullying
* liaise with parents/carers, the school nurse and special educational needs coordinators or Learning Support & Special Educational Needs Department if a child is falling behind with their work because of their asthma.
* Complete the online Asthma training: <https://www.educationforhealth.org/allresources/free-elearning/#supp>

**Out-of-hours sport**

* There has been a large emphasis in recent years on increasing the number of children and young people involved in exercise and sport in and outside of school. The health benefits of exercise are well documented and this is also true for children and young people with asthma. It is therefore important that the school involves pupils with asthma as much as possible in after school clubs.
* External PE teachers, classroom teachers and out of hours school sport coaches are aware of the potential triggers for pupils with asthma when exercising, tips to minimise these triggers and what to do in the event of an asthma attack. They are made aware of any child in their club who uses an Asthma inhaler.
* Children undertaking school sports clubs after school on-site need to take their classroom inhalers with them and ensure they are returned to the box in the classroom after the club.

**School environment**

* The school does all that it can to ensure the school environment is favourable to pupils with asthma. The school does not keep furry or feathery animals and has a smoke free policy. As far as possible the school does not use chemicals in science and art lessons that are potential triggers for pupils with asthma. Pupils with asthma are encouraged to leave the room and go and sit in the school office if particular fumes trigger their asthma.
* When a pupil is falling behind in lessons
	+ If a pupil is missing a lot of time at school or is always tired because their asthma is disturbing their sleep at night, the class teacher will initially talk to the parents/carers to work out the best way forward for their child and how to prevent their child from falling behind.
	+ The school recognises that it is possible for pupils with asthma to have special education needs due to their asthma.

Asthma attacks

* + All staff who come into contact with pupils with asthma know what to do in the event of an asthma attack. All staff to have completed an Asthma online training course from Education for Health.

Date: 1.3.24 Reviewed:

Chair of Governors Caroline Aldrich Head teacher: Janette Dunderdale