

Eaves Primary School

'Excellence in Everything'



Asthma Policy

January 2023

Status	Non-Statutory
Responsible Governors' Committee	Resources committee
Responsible Person	Mrs N Kearney
Review Date	January 2025
Last Amended Date	January 2021

Aims

To provide a caring, safe environment in which the children and staff can feel secure and happy.

To provide a broad, balanced and challenging curriculum through a wide variety of learning experiences.

To provide opportunities for everyone to succeed.

To treat everyone equally and fairly and promote equal opportunities in all aspects of school life.

To encourage good work habits and high standards.

To welcome parent/carers and other members of the community into school to play an active part in the education of the pupils.

Background to this policy

This policy has been written with advice from the Department for Education and Skills, Asthma UK, the local education authority, local health care professionals, the school health service, parents/carers, the governing body and pupils.

Eaves Primary School recognises that asthma is a widespread, serious but controllable condition affecting many pupils at the school. The school positively welcomes pupils with asthma and encourages pupils with asthma to achieve their potential in all aspects of school life by having a clear policy that is understood by all stakeholders. Supply teachers and new staff are also made aware of the policy. All staff who come into contact with pupils with asthma are provided with training on asthma on a regular basis.

Asthma Medicines

Immediate access to reliever medicines is essential. Pupils with asthma are encouraged to carry their reliever inhaler as soon as the parent/carer, doctor or asthma nurse and class teacher agree they are mature enough. The reliever inhalers of younger children are kept in the classroom in a designated basket.

Parents/carers are asked to ensure that the school is provided with a labelled spare reliever inhaler. The class teacher will hold this separately in case the child's own inhaler runs out or is lost or forgotten. All inhalers must be labelled with the child's name by the parent/carer. School staff are not required to administer asthma medicines to pupils (except in an emergency), however many of the staff at this school are happy to do this. School staff who agree to administer medicines are insured by the local authority when acting in agreement with this policy. All school staff will let pupils take their own asthma medication when they need to.

Record Keeping

Each year, or when a child joins the school, parents/carers are asked to complete a health care plan for their child detailing any medical condition such as asthma.

A register is kept in school which also details expiry dates for inhalers.

Exercise and activity-PE and Games

Eaves Primary School acknowledges that 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 have a copy of the asthma register to hand.

Pupils with asthma are encouraged to participate fully in all PE lessons. Staff will remind children with asthma, that is triggered by exercise, to take their reliever inhaler before the lesson, and to thoroughly warm up and down before and after the lesson. Staff will ensure that children's inhalers will be labelled and kept in a box at the site of the lesson. If a child needs to use their inhaler during a lesson they will be encouraged to do so.

Out of Hours support

Eaves Primary School recognises the benefits of 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 involve pupils with asthma as much as possible in after school clubs.

All after school clubs are supervised by staff from Eaves Primary school who have received training from the Children's Community and Anaphylaxis Service.

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 definite no smoking policy. As far as possible the school does not use chemicals in any lessons that are potential triggers for pupils with asthma. Pupils with asthma are encouraged to leave the room and go and sit with a learning support assistant in the school reception area if particular fumes are found to trigger their asthma.

Making the school asthma friendly

The school ensures that all pupils understand asthma. Asthma can be included in the national curriculum as part of PSHCE, Science and PE.

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 how to prevent their child from falling behind. If appropriate, the teacher will then talk to the school nurse and SENCO about the pupil's needs.

The school recognises that it is possible for pupils with asthma to have special educational 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.

Access and Review of Policy

The Asthma Policy will be accessible to all staff and the community through the school's website. Hard copies can be obtained through the school office. This policy will be reviewed on a two-yearly cycle.