



Asthma Policy

Approved by:	Pupil Outcomes and Well-Being Committee	Date: 4 June 2025
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Last reviewed:	June 2025
Reviewed By:	Mrs L Bryant

Next review due by:	June 2026
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This Policy should be read in conjunction with the Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy, Managing Medication in School Policy and Educational Visits Policy

Downlands:

- Recognises that asthma is a widespread, serious but controllable condition and the school welcomes all pupils with asthma.
- Ensures that pupils with asthma can and do participate fully in all aspects of school life, including art, PE, science, educational visits and out of hours activities.
- Recognises that pupils with asthma need immediate access to reliever inhalers at all times.
- Keeps a record of all pupils with asthma and the medicines they take.
- Endeavours that the whole school environment, including the physical, social, sporting and educational environment, is favourable to pupils with asthma.
- Ensures that all staff (including supply teachers and support staff) who have pupils with asthma in their care, know who those pupils are and know the school's procedure to follow in the event of an asthma attack.

Asthma medicines

Immediate access to reliever medicines is essential. Pupils are expected to carry their own inhalers with them.

It is advised that the school is provided with a labelled spare and in date reliever inhaler. These are held in case the pupil's own inhaler runs out, or is lost or forgotten and are kept in the school reception area. All inhalers must be labelled with the child's name.

Emergency Asthma Inhalers

From 1st October 2014 the Human Medicines (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2014 will allow schools to keep a salbutamol inhaler for use in emergencies.

The emergency salbutamol inhaler should only be used by children, for whom written parental consent for use of the emergency inhaler has been given, who have either been diagnosed with asthma and prescribed an inhaler, or who have been prescribed an inhaler as reliever medication.

The inhaler can be used if the pupil's prescribed inhaler is not available (for example, because it is broken, or empty).

If the inhaler is used because a student has not brought their own into school with them and does not have a spare kept in school, then the parent/carer will be responsible for the cost of a new replacement emergency inhaler. This will be sourced by the school.

Under this policy, Downlands:

- Arranges for the supply, storage, care, and disposal of the inhaler and spacers in line with the school's policy on supporting pupils with medical conditions.
- **Keeps a register of children in the school that have been diagnosed with asthma or prescribed a reliever inhaler, a copy of which is kept with the emergency inhalers (we don't have this, but information is in Bromcom and in our asthma folder, don't know if we can change this or need to create a register).**

- Has written parental consent for use of the emergency inhaler included as part of a child's Individual Healthcare Plan (IHCP). **We don't have IHCP's for students with asthma only – can we change this to say in accordance with their asthma plan? Or do we need IHCP's for these students.**
- Ensures that the emergency inhaler is only used by children with asthma with written parental consent for its use.
- Ensures appropriate support and training for staff in the use of the emergency inhaler in line with the school's wider policy on supporting pupils with medical conditions.
- Keeps a record of use of the emergency inhaler as required by *Supporting pupils* and informing parents or carers that their child has used the emergency inhaler.
- Has at least two volunteers responsible for ensuring the protocol is followed.

If the parent/carer has stated that they require **us to keep a spare inhaler for their child** in school but does not supply an in-date inhaler, the school will take the following action.

- Contact the parent/carer by email and request that an inhaler is brought into school without delay. This email communication will be logged on the pupil's Bromcom Health Information log.
- If the parent/carer fails to supply the inhaler as requested, repeat the request for the inhaler and state that without an inhaler, in the event of an asthma attack, an emergency salbutamol inhaler can be used if written parental consent has been given. Parents/carers will be notified that their child has used an emergency inhaler and that they are responsible for the cost of replacing this inhaler.

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 medicines when they need to.

For information on how to clean inhalers please go to www.asthma4children

Record keeping

When a child joins the school, parents/carers are asked to declare any medical conditions (including asthma) that require care within school, for the school's records.

At the beginning of each school year, parents are requested to update details about medical conditions (including asthma) and emergency contact numbers.

All parents/carers of pupils with asthma are given an asthma information form, with emergency inhaler permission, to complete and return to school. From this information the school keeps its asthma records. Parents are required to update the school about any change in their [son's/daughter's] **child's** medication or treatment.

Exercise and activity - PE and games

All pupils are encouraged to participate fully in all aspects of school life including PE. PE staff are aware of those pupils with asthma. Pupils are encouraged/reminded to use their inhalers before exercise (if instructed by the parent/carer on the asthma form) and during exercise if needed. Staff are aware of the importance of thorough

warm up and down. Each pupil's inhaler will be labelled and kept in a box at the site of the lesson.

School Environment

The school endeavours to ensure that the school environment is favourable to pupils with asthma. The school will take into consideration, any particular triggers to an asthma attack that an individual may have and will seek to minimise the possibility of exposure to these triggers.

Asthma Attacks – Downlands' Procedure

In the event of an asthma attack, staff will follow the school procedure:

- Encourage the pupil to use their inhaler if available.
- Summon a first aider who will bring the pupil's Asthma Information Form and an emergency inhaler if parental consent has been given for its use. The first aider will ensure that the inhaler is used according to the dosage on the form.
- If the pupil's condition does not improve or worsens, the First Aider will follow the 'Emergency asthma treatment' procedures.
- The First Aider will call for an ambulance if there is no improvement in the pupil's condition.
- If there is any doubt about a pupil's condition an ambulance will be called.

Access

The Asthma Policy will be accessible to all staff and the community through the school's website. Hard copies can be obtained from the school office.

Dear Parent/Carer

Asthma Information Form

Please complete the questions below so that the school has the necessary information about your child's asthma.

Please return this form without delay.

PUPIL'S NAME: _____ **DOB:** _____ **Tutor Group:** _____

Contact Information:

Name					Relationship to child			
Phone Numbers	Work		Home		Mobile		Other	

If I am unavailable please contact:

Name					Relationship to child			
Phone Numbers	Work		Home		Mobile		Other	

- Does your child need an inhaler in school? Yes/No (delete as appropriate)
- Please provide information on your child's current treatment. (Include the name, type of inhaler, the dose and how many puffs?)

- Do they have a spacer?

- What triggers your child's asthma?

It is advised that all pupils who need an inhaler should also have a spare inhaler in school. Spare inhalers may be required in the event that the first inhaler runs out, is lost or forgotten. Inhalers must be clearly labelled with your child's name and must be replaced before they reach their expiry date. The school will also keep a salbutamol inhaler for emergency use, if you have given consent. If the inhaler is used because a student has not brought their own into school with them and does not have a spare kept in school, then the parent/carers will be responsible for the cost of a new replacement emergency inhaler, which will be sourced by the school.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

I am the person with parental responsibility

Tick the appropriate statements:

- ☐ My child carries his/her own inhaler.
- ☐ My child requires/does not require a spacer and I have provided this to the school office.
- ☐ I do not wish to provide a spare inhaler.
- ☐ I am aware I am responsible for supplying the school with in date inhaler(s)/spacer for school use and will supply this/these as soon as possible.

1. Does your child need a blue inhaler before doing exercise/PE? If so, how many puffs?

2. Do you give consent for the following treatment to be given to your child, as recognized by Asthma Specialists, in an emergency?

- Give **6 puffs of the blue inhaler via a spacer**
- Reassess after 5 minutes
- If the child still feels wheezy or appears to be breathless they should have a further **4 puffs of the blue inhaler**
- Reassess after 5 minutes
- **If their symptoms are not relieved with 10 puffs of blue inhaler then this should be viewed as a serious attack:**
- **CALL AN AMBULANCE and CALL PARENT**
- **While waiting for an ambulance continue to give 10 puffs of the reliever inhaler every few minutes**

Yes/No (delete as appropriate)

Please sign below to confirm you agree to the following:

- I agree to ensure that my child has in-date inhalers and a spacer (if prescribed) in school.
- I give consent for the school to administer my child's inhaler in accordance with the emergency treatment detailed above.
- I agree that the school can administer the school emergency salbutamol inhaler if required and that I may be responsible for the cost of replacing the used inhaler, as explained above.
- I agree that my child's medical information can be shared with school staff responsible for their care.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

I am the person with parental responsibility

Please remember to inform the school if there are any changes in your child's treatment or condition.

Thank you

Parental Update (only to be completed if your son/daughter no longer has asthma)	
My child: _____ no longer has asthma and therefore no longer requires an inhaler in school or on school visits	
Signed Date <i>I am the person with parental responsibility</i>	Date

For office use:

	Provided by parent Yes/No	Location (delete as appropriate)	Expiry Date	Date of phone call requesting inhaler	Date of letter (attach copy)
Spare inhaler Advised		In office/first aid room			
Spacer (if required)					
Record any further follow up with parent/carer:					

