

Forres Sandle Manor (Non-Academic) Policy

Policy Title	Asthma Policy
Policy Lead (Appointment (& Initials))	School Nurse (CS)
Date of Last Review	January 2022
Date of Next Review	July 2022

ASTHMA

About one in seven children have asthma and numbers are increasing. We want to make sure having Asthma does not mean that children are missing out when they are at school. Most children with asthma can have a full and active life. This policy will help pupils with the management of their asthma whilst they are at school.

RECORD KEEPING

When a child joins the school it will be listed by parents on their medical and social welfare form if they have asthma. The school nurse will then produce individual care plans for each pupil.

Pupils with asthma will be added to the 'Asthma and Allergies' list which is displayed in the staffroom so that all staff are aware. They will also have a medical alert on their profile on school base.

Boarders with asthma are taken annually for a review at the asthma clinic at The Fordingbridge Surgery to ensure that they are managing their asthma. Their medication will be checked to ensure it is still correct and the Doctor/Nurse at the asthma clinic will check to see that boarders are using their inhalers correctly. Pupils will have their height measured, they will be weighed and they will do a peak flow.

The school holds inhalers for each child in Year 4 upwards in the surgery and they are checked regularly for expiry dates by the School Nurse. Each child has a spare inhaler in school. If any child requires an inhaler in Year 3 below, this would be held in the medical cupboard in the Lower School staffroom.

ACCESS TO INHALERS

Immediate access to a pupil's reliever is vital. Children are allowed access to their inhalers at any time in the school day, should they feel they need to use them. For Children in Prep school, it is encouraged that they keep their reliever inhaler with them at all times.

Inhalers for both boarders and day pupils in Year 4 upwards are kept in the surgery in a clear plastic bag with their name on.

Inhalers should accompany pupils whenever they take part in offsite activities, or residential trips. In the case of residential trips, both the preventer and reliever will be sent.

Inhalers should be taken outside by the Duty Matron when there is a fire drill.

Boarders who use preventer inhalers will have them written on a medication administration record form which is individual for each student in the red folder. This will ensure the inhaler is always given at the correct time each day. This is because using a preventer regularly helps reduce your body's reaction to triggers encountered in daily life.

ASTHMA ATTACK

All staff should be able to manage an attack. If a child is having an asthma attack then a Matron should be summoned. The symptoms a child may display on having an asthma attack are as follows:

- Wheezing.
- Coughing.
- Shortness of breath.
- Tightness of chest.

For a mild asthma attack, children should use their usual reliever inhaler as per instructions. They need to be kept calm and reassured and clothing should be loosened.

If the child has a minor attack it should not interrupt their involvement in school. When they feel better they can return to school.

The child's parent must be notified about the attack and details recorded on their medical records on SchoolBase.

If, however, the child does not feel better in 5 to 10 minutes; is distressed or exhausted; is unable to talk in sentences; has blue lips; or you have any doubts, the following action is required:

- One adult should stay with the pupil and use reliever inhaler while the other adult dials 999 for an ambulance and states that the pupil is having a severe asthma attack requiring immediate medical attention.
- Continue to give reliever inhaler until help arrives.
- Inform parents of the situation as soon as appropriate.

Under no circumstances should the child be taken to hospital in a car, in case the child's condition deteriorates.

Full details of the incident should then be recorded on the pupil's medical records on SchoolBase.

THE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT

The school does all it can to ensure the school environment is favourable to children with asthma.

- Where possible, we will avoid feathery or furry school pets.
- We will, where possible, avoid pollen producing plants.
- No smoking is permitted anywhere on the FSM site.