

# **Newborough C of E Primary School**

## **Asthma Policy**

Policy last reviewed: Spring 2016  
Next review: Spring 2017

# **ASTHMA POLICY**

## Newborough School

- will help and encourage all people with asthma to participate fully in all aspects of school
- recognises that asthma is an important condition affecting many people
- recognises that swift access to inhalers is essential
- will do all it can to make sure that the school environment is favourable to everyone with asthma
- has a clear understanding of what to do in the event of someone having an asthma attack
- will work in partnership with parents, school governors, health professionals, school staff and children to ensure the effective implementation of the school's asthma policy

### **Medication and inhalers:**

The importance of the Reliever inhaler can not be over stressed, delay can lead to distress, a severe attack and in a few rare cases death.

Parents should be asked for details of their child's condition. This information should be available to all staff and stored as a written record in the office.

Inhalers should be clearly marked with the child's name & date issued.

Inhalers are kept in the child's classroom, in a box marked 'inhalers', under the supervision of the class teachers. This box should be taken out if ever it is necessary to evacuate the school.

Inhalers should go with the children any time that they leave the school premises or the classroom.

A list of asthma sufferers plus expiry date of inhaler is kept with Julie Howchin (TA with responsibility for medicines) who checks the dates on a monthly basis. A class list of all medical needs, including asthma, is produced by the school office. The list will be kept inside the class box for inhalers, which can be found next to the class First Aid box.

It is the parent's responsibility to ensure up to date inhalers are in school. Parents are also responsible for telling the school if there are any changes to the dosage or type of inhaler prescribed, which must be either in the form of a new prescription (label on the medication box) or by a letter from the doctor.

The school will follow the precise instructions of the prescriptions and will not provide an increased amount unless there is written instruction from the child's doctor.

Depending on individual need it may be necessary for inhalers to be given 10 minutes before any form of physical exercise - playtimes and lunch times if necessary.

If a child has to be removed from physical activity due to the onset of asthma, then the parents need to be informed at the time of the incident.

### **In the event of an attack:**

- Stay calm
- Ensure the reliever is correctly taken
- Listen to what the child may be trying to tell you about their condition
- Encourage the children to breathe slowly and deeply in an upright position

### **Call an ambulance if:**

- the child is getting exhausted
- the child is distressed or unable to talk
- the reliever has no effect after 5 minutes
- you have doubts about the child's condition