



*A Family. Uniquely made and loved by God.*

# Stradbroke CofE Primary School

# All Saints Laxfield Primary School

## Asthma Policy

**Approved by:** Governors **Date:** Autumn 2023

**Last reviewed on:** Autumn 2023

**Next review due by:** Autumn 2026

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

This 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. This 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. Supply teachers and new staff are also made aware of the policy. All staff attend online training.

### **Asthma medicines**

- Immediate access to reliever medicines is essential. Parents/carers are asked to ensure that the school is provided with a labelled reliever inhaler. The reliever inhalers are kept in the classroom in a labelled box along with a spacer and a spreadsheet of expiry dates.
- 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.
- When asthma medicines are administered to a child, a 'Record of inhalers administered' form must be completed by the member of staff supervising the child. This must be sent home, via the child's school diary, on the same day so that parents can see the medicine has been administered. Parents are required to sign and return this form to school which is then retained for our records. A sticker is also placed in the child's diary to alert parents to the fact that a form has been completed.

### **Record keeping**

- At the beginning of each school year or when a child joins the school, parents/carers are asked if their child has any medical conditions including on their enrolment form.
- All parents/carers of children with asthma are consequently sent an Asthma UK '*School Asthma Card*' to give to their child's doctor or asthma nurse to complete. Parents/carers are asked to return them to school. From this information the school keeps its asthma register, which is available to all school staff. School Asthma Cards are then sent to parents/carers of children with asthma on an annual basis to update. Parents/carers are also 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.

### **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 the school have asthma from the school's asthma register.
- Pupils with asthma are encouraged to participate fully in all PE lessons. Teachers will remind pupils whose asthma is triggered by exercise to take their reliever inhaler before the lesson, and to thoroughly warm up and down before and after the lesson. It is agreed with staff that each pupil's labelled inhaler will be kept at the site of the lesson. If a pupil needs to use their inhaler during a lesson they will be encouraged to do so.
- Classroom teachers follow the same principles as described above for games and activities involving physical activity.

### **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 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.
- Teachers 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. There is always a teacher on site to support any out of hours clubs.

### **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 definitive no-smoking policy.

### **Making the school asthma-friendly**

- The school has two asthma champions – the Head of School and the Administration Assistant.
- Parents are informed by letter about their role, the role of the school staff and the role of the asthma champions in keeping their child safe.
- The school ensures that all pupils understand asthma. We have an assembly on Asthma Awareness Day to raise general awareness about this disease. We also explain what asthma is and how it impacts lives in PSHE (specifically Healthy me in Year 3/4 and Celebrating Difference in Year 5)

### **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 special education needs co-ordinator about the pupil's needs.
- 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.
- In the event of an asthma attack the school follows the procedure outlined by Department of Education and the child's information on their school asthma card. This procedure is visibly displayed in the office, staffroom and every classroom.