

PERRYFIELDS PRIMARY PRU



ASTHMA POLICY

Review Date	Reviewed Date	Reviewer	Action
September 2017	September 2017	Staff	Ratified by Management Committee: 17.10.2017
September 2020			

Introduction

- In school, we recognise that asthma is an important condition which affects many children. We will welcome all children who suffer from asthma and we will ensure that they are able to participate fully in all areas of school life.

Policy Development

- This policy was developed in consultation with the Headteacher, staff, members, parents and health professionals.

Purpose and Aims

- The aim of this policy is to ensure that staff, parents, members, visitors and pupils understand about asthma and how to deal with it.
- It is the responsibility of parents/carers to inform the school if their child/children are asthmatic.
- In order to make our school asthma friendly we have adopted a non-smoking policy to ensure that pupils are never exposed to the dangers of passive smoking. Chemicals, cleaning materials and paint sprays are not used whilst pupils are present. Pets should be housed away from the classroom. Avoiding these in the school environment can lessen the incidence of asthma attacks.
- It is essential that we understand how to deal with medication and inhalers effectively. There are two types of treatment both of which come in an inhaler. RELIEVERS – which help the child's breathing difficulties, these are generally in blue containers. PREVENTORS – which make airways less sensitive, these generally come in brown/white containers. Preventors are not kept in school.
- Children with asthma should have easy access to their inhalers in case they need them for any reason and be responsible for their use. Do not cause delay by locking up inhalers. Make sure all inhalers are always taken on school trips. Liaise with health professionals if a child needs the use of a nebuliser at school.

Equal Opportunities

- Full participation in all areas of the school curriculum, including physical education, should be the aim for all, but the most affected, with asthma. Children with exercise-induced asthma should take a puff of their inhaler before they start exercise. They should bring inhalers to the hall, swimming pool and sports field. Children who say they are too wheezy to continue, should take their reliever and rest until they feel better.
- Teachers should be aware that some children are shy in public when taking their inhalers. We will ensure that other children understand asthma so that they can support their friends.

Definition of Asthma

- Asthma is sometimes described as wheezy bronchitis. It causes the airways in the lung to narrow making breathing difficult. Children with asthma have inflamed airways which react to certain triggers (irritants) eg. Viral infections, allergies,

exercise, cold weather, temperature changes, excitement, laughter, glue, paint and tobacco smoke.

Specific Issues

- We will ensure that all staff responsible for administering first aid have received up to date training of what to do if a child has an asthma attack. We will work in partnership with parents, governors, health professionals, school staff and children to ensure the successful implementation of the school asthma policy. Copies of what to do in case of an asthma attack are located at all first aid stations in school.