

ST ANDREW'S METHODIST PRIMARY SCHOOL



Asthma Policy

Reviewed January 2024

Headteacher

Date:

Chair/Vice Chair of Governing Board

Date:

Date of Next Review January 2026

This policy has been scrutinized to ensure it meets the requirements of the single equality duties. The school will make every reasonable adjustment to comply with the duties and actively avoid discrimination.

Asthma Policy

The health and well-being of our pupils is paramount at St Andrew's and is reflected in our vision, **'Striving for excellence, together as one with God.'** Our Christian vision is committed to supporting more vulnerable pupils, and those with additional medical or personal needs.

Asthma is a physical condition and not an emotional illness. It affects at least one in every ten children. The symptoms are caused by the narrowing of the air passages in the lungs making it difficult to breathe. Many of the symptoms are triggered by:

- House dust mites
- Grass and tree pollen
- Exposure to extreme cold and wind
- Fumes from glue, paint, tobacco
- Contact with animals
- Physical activity
- Colds, flu and other illnesses

There are two main groups of medicines available to asthma sufferers; ones that prevent an attack and ones that relieve an attack.

Preventative Inhalers

These inhalers are usually coloured brown, red or green. They are often taken daily. Such products include:

- Intal/Sodium Cromoglycate
- Becotide
- Pulmicourt

Reliever Inhalers – these are the only inhalers which should be administered in school.

These inhalers are usually blue in colour. They are administered when a child is suffering with any symptoms of asthma. Such products include:

- Ventolin
- Briccinyll
- Salbutamol

Both groups of inhalers must be breathed in through a puffer volumiser.

PARENTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR MEDICINES INCLUDING INHALERS. THEY MUST ENSURE THAT INHALERS ARE IN SCHOOL AND THAT THEY ARE CLEAN AND REPLACED WHEN EMPTY. PARENTS MUST ALSO ENSURE THAT THE SCHOOL HAS ALL THE RELEVANT AND UP TO DATE INFORMATION AND SHOULD INFORM SCHOOL OF ANY CHANGES TO THEIR CHILD'S CONDITION OR MEDICATION. PARENTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR CHECKING THE USE BY DATE.

St Andrew's welcomes all pupils with asthma. All pupils are encouraged to participate fully in all aspects of school including physical activities.

At St Andrew's we ensure that all inhalers are accessible to pupils. Inhalers are stored in each classroom.

Children should take inhalers to the sports field, the swimming baths or on school visits, including residential visits.

At St Andrew's we will endeavour to make the environment as favourable as possible for all asthma sufferers.

At St Andrew's we offer all parents an opportunity to inform us of their child's asthma needs and parents are requested to complete a parental consent form when they bring in any medication. All inhalers are returned at the end of the school year to be cleaned and replenished in preparation the next school year. All staff will be informed of children who have asthma. Parental consents and instructions for administering inhalers are kept with the inhaler in the appropriate classes.

Guidelines for the signs, symptoms and treatment of asthma are available in every first aid box in all classrooms.

Specialist input from health professionals regarding pupil's medical condition is welcomed at any time. Staff received training and information regarding asthma annually.

See Asthma UK guideline attached