

# Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Nursery & Primary School



## Asthma Policy

## INTRODUCTION

This policy is one in a series that makes up the 'Health, Safety and Welfare' Statement for the school. This policy states the school's philosophy on how it will make a positive contribution to achieving the five key outcomes of Every Child Matters:

- Being healthy
- Staying safe
- Enjoying and achieving
- Making a positive contribution
- Economic well being.

This school:

- Welcomes all pupils with asthma
- Will encourage and help children with asthma to participate fully in all aspects of school life
- Recognizes that asthma is an important condition affecting many school children
- Recognises that immediate access to an inhaler is vital
- Will do all it can to make sure that the school environment is favourable to children with asthma
- Will ensure that other children understand asthma so that they can support their friends; and so that children with asthma can avoid the stigma sometimes attached to this chronic condition
- Has clear understanding of what to do in the event of a child having an asthma attack
- Will work in partnership with parents, school governors, health professionals, school staff and children to ensure the successful implementation of a school policy.

To achieve these aims we will:

- Make sure that everyone involved in the child's education is aware of the needs of children with asthma
- Make an opportunity for children who have exercise-induced asthma to take a puff of their inhaler before they start exercise and to be aware that some children are shy of doing this in public
- Make sure that children bring their inhalers to the gym, the sports field, the swimming baths, or on school trips
- Make sure that children who say they are too wheezy to continue take their reliever inhaler and rest until they feel better
- Keep a register of all children suffering from asthma that will include detail of the pupil's current treatment and name of G.P. Give a copy of this to the School Nurse and to all members of staff
- Plan regular training for staff from the school nurse, including training on what to do in the event of a child having an asthma attack
- Plan asthma awareness sessions into Health Educating Scheme programme for all children so that they develop an awareness and understanding about asthma appropriate to their stage of development
- Develop a smoking policy, which ensures that pupils are never exposed to the dangers of passive smoking whilst in school.

- Let all staff, governors and parents of children with asthma have a copy of the policy
- Display guidance on what to do in the event of an asthma attack prominently in the Staff Room and in Staff Handbook and ensure all staff are aware of it
- Ensure child's reliever is accessible at all times. As soon as the child is able, allow them to keep this inhaler with them at all times, in their pocket or in an inhaler pouch. Keep younger children's inhalers in a safe place in class clearly marked with the child's name
- Ensure parents complete relevant consent forms for children to receive their medication in school.

### **MONITORING AND EVALUATION**

This policy will be reviewed biennially in consultation with staff. The governors review this policy as part of their monitoring of the effectiveness of the school's Personal Social and Health Education (PSHE) and Health and Safety programmes.