



FOXBOROUGH PRIMARY SCHOOL

Asthma Policy

Policy confirmed by the Local Committee
of Foxborough Primary School

Date Ratified: Spring 2026

Signed:

A handwritten signature in grey ink, appearing to read 'Gill Knight', is placed over the 'Signed:' label.

Chair of LC: Gill Knight

Review Date: Spring 2027

Asthma Policy

The Principles of our School Asthma Policy

- Asthma is an important condition affecting many school children and Foxborough welcomes all students with asthma
- Foxborough Primary School will ensure that children with asthma participate fully in all aspects of school life including PE
- Foxborough Primary School recognises that immediate access to reliever inhalers is vital and will ensure they are always available to those who need them
- We will keep records of children with asthma and the medication they take
- We will ensure the environment in school is favourable to children with asthma
- We will ensure that other children understand asthma
- We will ensure that as per asthma friendly school requirements, all staff are trained on how to help children with asthma and support children in the event of an asthma attack
- We will work in partnership with all interested parties including all staff, parents, governors, doctors and nurses, and children to ensure the policy is implemented and maintained successfully
- Our Lead First Aider and Asthma Champion is Pauline Grieve. We place great emphasis on the importance of being an informed and up to date with best practice for asthma care. We are currently an asthma friendly school as recognised by Frimley Health

This policy has been written based on the following advice and guidance:

- Supporting Pupils in school with medical conditions (Department for Education 2015)
 - Guidance on the use of Emergency Salbutamol Inhalers in Schools (Department of Health, Sept 2014)
 - Information from the National Asthma Campaign
 - Advice from Frimley Health
1. Foxborough Primary school recognises that asthma is an important condition affecting many school children and positively welcomes all students with asthma.
 2. We encourage children with asthma to achieve their potential in all aspects of school life by having a clear policy that is understood by school staff, parents and students. Supply teachers and new staff are also made aware of this policy. 85% staff complete asthma training on a regular basis through Education for Health which is in line with the NHS England recommended training module which certificates for 2 years.

Medication

Immediate access to a reliever inhaler is vital. Records are kept each time an inhaler is used. The reliever inhalers of younger children are kept in their individual classrooms in a designated first aid area marked with a green and white first aid sign. All staff know where inhalers are kept.

All inhalers must be labelled with the child's name by the parent. If using a metered dose inhaler ("puffer" type), a spacer device must also be provided by the parent. Medication must be clearly labelled with a pharmacy label displaying the pupil's name. School staff are not required to administer medication to children except in an emergency; however, many of our staff are happy to do this. School staff who agree to do this are insured by the Trust's personal indemnity policy when acting in accordance with this policy. All school staff will let children take their own medication when needed.

Record Keeping

At the beginning of each school year, or when a child joins a school, parents are asked to inform the school if their child is asthmatic. All parents of children with asthma are required to complete a School Asthma form and return it to the school. From this information, the school keeps its asthma register which is displayed in the first aid room and in the front office. If any changes are made to a child's medication it is the responsibility of the parents or carer to inform the school.

We hold an emergency inhaler and spacer as per 'Guidance on the use of Emergency Salbutamol inhalers in schools' (March 2015). This medication can only be administered to children who are asthmatic that have consented. First Aiders have been trained to administer the emergency inhaler and there are pictorial and written instructions in the First Aid room and around the school. The emergency inhalers are stored within the EYFS area and outside the main office.

Emergency kits consist of:

- Asthma register (with parental consent)
- 1 spacer device and 1 spacer device with infant mask
- 1 salbutamol 100mcgs per puff inhaler
- Information leaflet on how to administer
- Asthma attack flow chart
- Letter template to send to the parent informing them that the emergency inhaler/spacer has been used

Parents of children with Asthma are asked for consent for the school to use the emergency inhaler in the event that their own inhaler is not available. Parents will be informed if their child has used the emergency inhaler.

Asthma inhalers for each child are regularly checked for expiry dates by the lead first aider. Each child's inhaler is kept in a designated first aid area within the classroom.

All staff members are responsible for acquainting themselves with the triggers of a possible attack (allergies, colds, cough, cold weather) for each individual child in their care. All this information is found on the child's asthma form.

PE

Taking part in sports is an essential part of school life. Teachers are aware of which children have asthma from the asthma register. Children with asthma are encouraged to participate fully in PE. If a child needs to use their inhaler during the lesson, they will be encouraged to do so. Records are kept every time a child uses their inhaler.

School Trips and Outside Activities

When a child is away from the school classroom on a school trip, club, outside sport or PE, their inhaler should accompany them and be made available to them at all times.

The School Environment

We do all that we can to ensure our school environment is favourable to children with asthma. We are aware that the following may be triggers to students with Asthma:

- Colds and infection
- Dust and house dust mite
- Pollen, spores and moulds
- Feathers
- Furry animals
- Exercise, laughing
- Stress
- Cold air, change in the weather
- Chemicals, glue, paint, aerosols
- Food allergies

We have a non-smoking policy and are regularly cleaned to reduce chance of dust build up. Foxborough school does have animals and teachers are aware of any child who has a fur or feather allergy and will act appropriately. As far as possible, the school does not use chemicals in science and art lessons that are potential triggers for children with asthma.

Making the School Asthma Friendly

We ensure that all children understand asthma. Asthma is included in the curriculum through PSHE, science and within the assembly programme. Children with asthma and their friends are encouraged to learn about asthma; information for children and families can be accessed from the following website www.asthma.org.uk.

When a Child is falling behind in lessons

If a child is missing a lot of time from school because of asthma or is tired in class because of disturbed sleep and falling behind in class, the class teacher will initially talk to the parents. If appropriate the SLT will then talk to the school nursing team and SENCO to offer support. The school recognises that it is possible for children with asthma to have special education needs because of asthma.

Asthma Attacks

All staff who come into contact with children with asthma know what to do in the event of an asthma attack. We follow the following procedure, which is clearly displayed in all medical areas, classrooms and around the school.

1. Ensure that the reliever inhaler is taken immediately.
2. Stay calm and reassure the child.
3. Help the child to breathe by ensuring tight clothing is loosened.

After the attack

Minor attacks should not interrupt a child's involvement in school. When they feel better, they can return to school activities.

The child's parents must be informed about the attack.

Emergency procedure

If the pupil does not feel better or we are worried at any time before reaching 10 puffs from the inhaler, we will call 999 for an ambulance.

If the ambulance has not arrived after 10 minutes, we will give an additional 10 puffs as detailed above.

In the event of an ambulance being called, the pupil's parents or carers will be contacted.

In the event of a pupil being taken to hospital by ambulance, they will always be accompanied by a member of staff until a parent or carer is present unless advised by the medical professionals.