

Ryhill Junior, Infant and Nursery School

Asthma Policy

Ryhill Junior, Infant and Nursery school will:

- Welcome all pupils with asthma.
- Encourage and help children with asthma to participate fully in all aspects of school life.
- Recognise that asthma is an important condition affecting many school children.
- Recognise that immediate access to inhalers is vital.
- Strive to make sure that the school environment is favourable to children with asthma.
- Help other children understand asthma, so that they can support their friends.
- Have a clear understanding of what to do in the event of a child having an asthma attack.
- Work in partnership with parents, school governors, health professionals, school staff and children to ensure the successful implementation of a school asthma policy.

Medication and inhalers:

The school understands that many asthmatics may not need their reliever inhaler whilst they are at school as they are well controlled, however, inhalers will always be readily available to them in the event of an attack. Most acute attacks respond very well to the prescribed inhaler when given immediately.

Regarding medication and inhalers, the school will endeavour to do the following:

- Ensure that parents with asthmatic children are aware that they should inform the school, preferably in writing, of their child's treatment needed whilst at school.
- Keep this record available to those responsible for each child.
- All inhalers are kept in a box, clearly labelled with the child's name in the school office.
- Inhalers will be accessible to the child during break times.
- Children will take their inhalers on school trips.
- The school will liaise with a health professional regarding the use of the nebuliser if a child needs to use one in school.

Involving children who have asthma in sport and exercise

- Children who have exercise induced asthma will have the opportunity to take a puff of their inhaler before they start exercise.
- The children will take their inhalers to the swimming baths.
- Children who say that they are too wheezy to continue to take their reliever inhaler and rest until they feel better.

Staff will:

- Ensure all asthmatic children take any necessary treatment before sport or activities.
- Ensure relievers are readily available for use by asthmatic children when required.
- Check with child, parent, school nurse, that correct treatments and instructions are supplied for school trips.
- Be aware that materials brought into the classroom may trigger a child's asthma, and additional treatment may be necessary.
- Make a point of speaking to parents of children needing to use their inhaler for relief more often than usual.
- Know what to do in an emergency.

How to deal with an asthma attack:

1. **Keep calm**
2. **Allow child space to breathe.**
3. **Use reliever inhaler (blue).**
4. **If no improvement after 5 minutes – DIAL 999.**

Contact details:

NHS
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Castleford, Normanton & District Hospital
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Hightown
Castleford
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