

STANBURN PRIMARY SCHOOL



Asthma Policy

Last Reviewed:	June 2026
Committee responsible:	N/A
Next Review Date:	June 2027
Approved by:	Ms E D'Souza

Asthma Policy

1. Aims

At Stanburn Primary School we are committed to ensuring that all pupils with asthma are fully supported so they can access education safely, participate in school life and achieve their potential. We are proud to be an Asthma Friendly School recognised by the NHS, demonstrating our commitment to providing a safe, supportive and inclusive environment for pupils with asthma.

The school aims to:

- support pupils with asthma effectively
- ensure pupils have immediate access to reliever medication
- promote independence in managing asthma
- safeguard pupils' health, dignity and wellbeing
- minimise disruption to learning caused by asthma
- ensure pupils are included in all school activities
- work in partnership with parents/carers and healthcare professionals
- ensure staff are trained to respond to asthma emergencies
- comply with statutory duties under equality, safeguarding and health and safety legislation

2. Legislation and Guidance

This policy is based on:

- Children and Families Act 2014
- Equality Act 2010
- Data Protection Act 2018
- Department for Education statutory guidance: *Supporting Pupils at School with Medical Conditions*
- Guidance from Asthma + Lung UK

This policy should be read alongside:

- Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
- SEND Policy
- First Aid Policy
- Health and Safety Policy
- Attendance Policy
- Accessibility Plan

3. Definition of Asthma

Asthma is a long-term medical condition affecting the airways of the lungs. It can cause:

- coughing
- wheezing
- shortness of breath
- chest tightness

Symptoms may be mild or severe and can occur unexpectedly.

4. Roles and Responsibilities

Governing Body

The Governing Body will ensure:

- appropriate arrangements are in place to support pupils with asthma
- staff receive suitable training
- the policy is implemented and reviewed regularly

Headteacher

The Headteacher will ensure:

- implementation of this policy
- appropriate staff training is in place
- asthma procedures are followed
- the asthma register is maintained
- communication with parents/carers is effective

Inclusion Leader / SENDCo

The Inclusion Leader will:

- oversee support for pupils with asthma where needed
- liaise with parents/carers and healthcare professionals
- support reintegration following absence
- ensure educational impact is monitored

Welfare Team

The Welfare Team will:

- maintain the asthma register
- store medication safely
- check expiry dates monthly
- maintain records of inhaler use
- support staff with medical information

Staff

Staff will:

- follow this policy and pupil care plans
- allow immediate access to reliever inhalers
- recognise signs of asthma attack
- act in line with emergency procedures
- report concerns to parents/carers

- ensure pupils are included in all activities where possible

No member of staff is required to administer medication unless they have agreed to do so.

Parents and Carers

Parents/carers will:

- inform the school if their child has asthma
- provide in-date reliever inhalers and spacers
- ensure medication is replaced when required
- inform the school of any changes in condition
- provide medication for school trips
- ensure regular medical reviews take place
- provide in-date inhalers, EpiPens and other required medication at the start of each academic year

Pupils

Pupils will be encouraged, where appropriate, to:

- take responsibility for their inhaler
- recognise symptoms of asthma
- inform an adult if they feel unwell
- take medication when needed
- support peers appropriately

5. Medication and Inhaler Protocol

The school recognises that immediate access to reliever medication is essential.

The school will:

- ensure all pupils with asthma have access to their inhalers at all times
- store inhalers in classroom red emergency bags
- ensure bags accompany pupils at all times (including PE, breaks and trips)
- maintain emergency inhalers in designated areas:
 - Upper School
 - Lower School
 - PE Store
 - Library
 - Music Room
 - After school club
 - Welfare room

Emergency inhalers:

- are used only when a pupil's own inhaler is unavailable or unusable
- are used in line with school procedures and consent arrangements
- are recorded in the emergency inhaler log

- are monitored by the Welfare Team

Parents/carers will be informed after any use.

6. Asthma Register

The asthma register is maintained by the Welfare Team.

They will:

- update records annually
- ensure parental consent forms are completed
- check inhaler expiry monthly
- update information when notified of changes
- ensure staff can access relevant information

7. Individual Healthcare Plans (Where Required)

Where asthma is severe, long-term or impacts learning, an Individual Healthcare Plan (IHP) may be developed.

Plans will be created with:

- parents/carers
- healthcare professionals
- relevant school staff
- the pupil where appropriate

Plans may include:

- symptoms and triggers
- medication requirements
- emergency procedures
- PE and activity guidance
- school trip arrangements
- staff responsibilities

8. Exercise, PE and School Activities

Pupils with asthma are encouraged to take part in all school activities.

Staff will:

- allow pupils to use their inhaler and rest if symptoms occur
- ensure pupils take their reliever inhaler before exercise where this has been advised by their GP or healthcare professional.
- ensure pupils return to activity only when fully recovered
- ensure warm-up and cool-down routines are followed

Pupils will not be excluded unless medically advised.

9. Educational Visits and Out-of-School Activities

The school will:

- ensure inhalers are available on all visits
- carry out risk assessments where appropriate
- make reasonable adjustments to support inclusion
- liaise with parents/carers before trips

External providers must follow this policy when working on school premises.

10. Asthma Awareness

The school will promote understanding of asthma through:

- PSHE (Personal, Social, Health and Economic education) and RHE (Relationships and Health Education) lessons
- assemblies
- classroom learning
- the display of asthma information posters throughout the school, including in classrooms and within the medical red bags.

Pupils are taught:

- what asthma is
- how to recognise symptoms
- how to seek help for others

11. Emergency Asthma Procedure

In the event of an asthma attack:

Staff must:

1. Stay calm and reassure the pupil
2. Sit the pupil upright (do not lie down)
3. Give reliever inhaler immediately
4. Give 2 puffs of inhaler via spacer every 30 to 60 seconds
5. If not better give up to 6 puffs, call parents to collect child from school and advise to see GP
6. If parents are not available give up to 10 puffs, Call 999 immediately if
 - symptoms worsen
 - inhaler has no effect
 - the pupil is struggling to breathe or speak
7. Stay with the pupil at all times. Give up to 10 puffs every 15 minutes until child is better or help arrives.

12. Emergency Salbutamol Inhaler

The school holds emergency reliever inhalers in line with:

- Human Medicines (Amendment) Regulations 2014

They are used:

- only when a pupil's own inhaler is unavailable
- with parental consent
- under trained staff supervision
- recorded in the emergency log

13. Record Keeping and Confidentiality

The school will maintain:

- asthma register
- medication consent records
- inhaler usage logs
- training records

All information will be:

- stored securely
- shared only with relevant staff
- managed in line with data protection legislation

14. Training

Staff who support pupils with asthma will receive appropriate training including:

- asthma awareness
- inhaler use
- emergency response procedures

Training will be provided by appropriate healthcare professionals where required and refreshed regularly.

15. Unacceptable Practice

The following is considered unacceptable:

- preventing pupils from accessing inhalers
- sending pupils home unnecessarily
- leaving pupils unattended during an asthma episode
- preventing participation in activities without medical reason
- requiring parents/carers to attend school routinely for asthma care

16. Monitoring and Evaluation

Pupil health and asthma management will be monitored by the school. The effectiveness of this policy will be

reviewed annually by the Governing Body or sooner if required due to:

- updated national guidance
- changes in legislation
- school operational needs