OAKDENE
PRIMARY ACADEMY

GROWING FOR EXCELLENCE

ASTHMA POLICY

2026-2027

Version Number: 01
Ratified by Local Governing Body: July 2026
Next Review Date: July 2027
Academy Link: L Young

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MEMBER OF THE WADE DEACON TRUST

Asthma Policy Statement

• This school is an inclusive community that aims to support and welcome pupils with asthma

• This school ensures that the whole school environment, which includes physical, social, sporting and educational activities, is inclusive and favourable to pupils with asthma

• The school ensures all staff understand their duty of care to children and young people in the event of an emergency. All staff feel confident in knowing what to do in an emergency

• This school has clear guidance on the administration of medicines at school

• This school has clear guidance on the storage of medicines at school

• This school has clear guidance about record keeping

• Each member of the school and health community know their roles and responsibilities in maintaining and implementing an effective medical condition policy. The asthma policy is regularly reviewed, evaluated and updated.

Background to this policy

This policy has been written with advice from the Department for Education and Skills, Asthma UK, the local education authority, local health care professionals, the school health service, parents/carers, the governing body and pupils.

Oakdene Primary Academy recognises that asthma is a widespread, serious but controllable condition affecting some pupils at the school. The school positively welcomes pupils with asthma and encourages pupils with asthma to achieve their potential in all aspects of school life by having a clear policy that is understood by all stakeholders. Supply teachers and new staff are also made aware of the policy. All staff who come into contact with pupils with asthma are provided with training on asthma on a regular basis.

Asthma Medicines

Immediate access to reliever medicines is essential. Pupils with asthma are encouraged to carry their reliever inhaler as soon as the parent/carer, doctor or asthma nurse and class teacher agree they are mature enough. The reliever inhalers of younger children are kept in the classroom in a designated First aid bad- clearly visible for all and orange in appearance, consistent in each classroom across the school.

Parents/carers are asked to ensure that the school is provided with a labelled spare reliever inhaler. All inhalers must be labelled with the child's name by the pharmacy. School staff who agree to administer medicines are insured by the Wade Deacon Trust when acting in agreement with this policy. All school staff will let pupils take their own asthma medication when they need to unless unable. For those children who are able to administer their own inhaler, staff will support and supervise safely.

Record Keeping

Each year, or when a child joins the school, parents/carers are asked to complete a health care plan for their child detailing any medical condition such as asthma. A register is kept in school which also details expiry dates for inhalers. This is also regularly updated and circulated to all staff. The Office Manager updates this.

Exercise and activity-PE and Games

Oakdene Primary Academy acknowledges that taking part in sports, games and activities is an essential part of school life for all pupils. All teachers know which children in their class have asthma and have a copy of the asthma register to hand. Pupils with asthma are encouraged to participate fully in all PE lessons. Staff will remind children with asthma, which is triggered by exercise, to take their reliever inhaler before the lesson, and to thoroughly warm up and down before and after the lesson. Staff will ensure that children's inhalers are brought out in the orange first aid kit bags. If a child needs to use their inhaler during a lesson, they will be encouraged to do so.

Out of Hours support

Oakdene Primary Academy recognises the benefits of increasing the number of children and young people involved in exercise and sport in and outside of school. The health benefits of exercise are well documented, and this is also true for children and young people with asthma. It is therefore important that the school involve pupils with asthma as much as possible in after school clubs.

School environment

The school does all that it can to ensure the school environment is favourable to pupils with asthma. The school does not keep feathery animals and has a definite no smoking policy. As far as possible the school does not use chemicals in any lessons that are potential triggers for pupils with asthma. Pupils with asthma are encouraged to leave the room and go and sit with a learning support assistant in the school reception area if particular fumes are found to trigger their asthma.

Making the school asthma friendly

The school ensures that all pupils understand asthma as part of the school's approach to inclusion.

When a pupil is falling behind in lessons

If a pupil is missing time at school or is always tired because their asthma is disturbing their sleep at night, the class teacher will initially talk to the parents/carers to work out how to prevent their child from falling behind. If appropriate, the teacher will then talk to the school nurse and SENCO about the pupil's needs. The school recognises that it is possible for pupils with asthma to have special educational needs due to their asthma.

Asthma Attacks

All staff who come into contact with pupils with asthma know what to do in the event of an asthma attack.

Monitoring and review

This policy is reviewed every two years by the Headteacher, SENCo and the DSL. Any changes to this policy will be communicated to all relevant stakeholders.

The scheduled review date for this policy is July 2027.