

Burlington Junior School

Shaping Positive Futures



Achieving Our Full Potential

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Asthma Policy

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Asthma Information

Burlington Junior School aim to provide a caring supportive environment where all learners can achieve their potential. We will achieve high standards in all areas, through a creative, exciting, challenging curriculum and opportunities, which meet the needs of all.

Through engagement with local, national and worldwide communities and issues, our pupils will embrace responsible 21st century citizenship. We will take pride in all that we do and celebrate both success and effort.

At Burlington Junior School we will aim to:

- Provide a wide range of exciting and challenging experiences for all to enable our pupils to become effective learners and reach their potential.
- Promote responsible citizenship, built on respect for ourselves and others, through active links with the local and wider community.
- Promote high standards of physical, emotional and mental health and well-being among our school community.
- Promote equality of opportunity between disabled person and other person.
- Eliminate discrimination that is unlawful under the Act.
- Eliminate harassment of disabled pupils that is related to their disabilities.
- Promote positive attitudes towards disabled people.
- Encourage participation by disabled persons in public life.
- Take steps to account of disabled persons' disabilities, even where that involves treating disabled persons more favourably than other persons.

At Burlington Junior School we recognise that asthma is a widespread, serious but controllable condition affecting many pupils at the school. The school positively welcomes all pupils with asthma. The school encourages pupils with asthma to achieve their potential in all aspects of school life by having a clear policy that is understood by school staff, their employers (the Local Education Authority) and pupils. Supply Teachers and new staff are also made aware of the policy.

Asthma medicines

Immediate access to reliever medicines is essential. Pupils with asthma in Years 3 – 6 keep their inhalers in the class room where they are easily accessible. Parents / carers are asked to ensure that the school is provided with a labelled spare reliever inhaler that is in-date. The school holds an emergency inhaler which can be accessed if a pupil's own inhaler runs out, or is lost or forgotten. All inhalers must be labelled with the child's name, class, type of inhaler and expiry date by the parent / carer.

School staff are not required to administer asthma medicines to pupils (except in an emergency), however some of the staff at Burlington Junior School may be happy to do this. School staff who agree to administer medicines are insured by the local education authority when acting in agreement with this policy. All school staff will let pupils take their own medicines when they need to. The school also holds an emergency inhaler that is used only in an emergency with parent's permission or medical advice. Before the child uses an inhaler the date is checked by the staff member to ensure it is in date.

Record Keeping

At the beginning of each school year or when a child joins the school, parents / carers are asked if their child has any medical conditions including asthma on their enrolment form. Asthma Health Care plans are sent to parents annually for them to review and update with any new information. Before a child takes their inhaler, Individual Health Care plan and mediations record are checked by the staff member. If the child is administered medication the details, such as date, time and amount taken is logged onto the pupil's record in class. These are available for parents to check on request.

Exercise and activity – PE and games

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 all teachers at the school are aware of which pupils have asthma from the school's asthma register.

Pupils with asthma are encouraged to participate fully in all PE lessons. Teachers will remind pupils whose asthma is triggered by exercise to take their reliever inhaler before the lesson, and to thoroughly warm up and down before and after the lesson. If a pupil needs to use their inhaler during a lesson they will be encouraged to do so. Classroom teachers follow the same principles as described above for games and activities involving physical activity.

Out-of-hours sport

There has been a large emphasis in recent years on 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.

Teachers, support staff and out-of-hours school sport coaches are aware of the potential triggers for pupils with asthma when exercising, tips to minimise these triggers and what to do in the event of an asthma attack.

School trips/residential visits

No child should be denied the opportunity to take part in school trips/residential visits because of asthma, unless so advised by their GP or consultant.

The child's reliever inhaler should be readily available to them throughout the trip, being carried by the supervising adult. For residential visits, staff should be trained in the use of regular controller treatments, as well as emergency management. It is the responsibility of the parent/carer that they should provide written information about all asthma medication required by their child for the duration of the trip. Parents should be responsible for ensuring an adequate supply of medication is provided. The group leader should have appropriate contact numbers with them.

School Environment

The school does all that it can to ensure the school environment is favourable to pupils with asthma. The school has a definitive no-smoking policy or vaping in the building or in the site. As far as possible the school does not use chemicals in science and art lessons that are potential triggers for pupils with asthma. Pupils with asthma are encouraged to leave the room and go and sit in the school office if particular fumes trigger their asthma.

Making the school asthma-friendly

It is recommended that all pupils should be educated about asthma. This could be through PSHE, drugs education, assemblies etc. Support for this may be available from the school nurse or the paediatric asthma specialist nurse.

Training

All staff who have contact with these pupils should be given the opportunity to receive training on signs and symptoms of asthma and how to treat it. All staff will receive online training from Asthma UK.

Responsibilities

Parents/Carers: To tell the school that their child has asthma. Ensure the school has complete and up to date information regarding their child's condition. Inform the school about the medicines their child requires during school hours. Regularly check the inhalers kept in school to ensure there is an adequate amount of medicine available and that it is in date.

When a pupil is falling behind in lessons

If a pupil is missing a lot of 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 special education needs coordinator about the pupil's needs.

The school recognises that it is possible for pupils with asthma to have special education 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. Staff must also refer to the individual Health Care Plan of the pupil/staff member or call 999 in an emergency.