

Asthma Policy for Pupils

Statement of Intent

About one in seven children have asthma and numbers are increasing. We want to make sure that having asthma does not mean children losing out when they are at school. Most children with asthma can have a full and active life. This policy will help pupils with the management of their asthma while they are at school. This policy supplements the 'Administration of medication in school' and 'Health and Safety' policies.

Asthma register

- When a child joins the school part of their admission pack is a medical form to alert the school to any medical needs including asthma needs. The return of this completed form will ensure that they are placed on the Ysgol Glanwydden Asthma Register (see appendix 1). The school will collate the register and also contact the parents or named responsible carer, to obtain the inhalers that will be held by the school.

Indemnity

- Staff who are happy to administer medication will be provided with indemnity.
- In emergencies staff should act as any prudent parent would, which may include giving medication.
- Each inhaler provided by parents / carers for pupils to use must be within date, named and prescribed with an appropriate pharmacy label.

Access to Inhalers

- Individual pupils' inhalers are kept in a named box in the office.
- Children are allowed access to their inhalers at any time in the school day, should they feel the need to use it.
- Inhalers should accompany them when taking part in off site activities, or residential trips.
- Inhalers should be taken outside along with the register for fire drills.

Staff Awareness and action in asthma emergencies

- All staff need to be able to manage attacks. Staff will do what a 'reasonable parent' would do in the circumstances prevailing at the time.
- For mild attacks children should take their usual reliever inhaler, as per instructions.
- For severe attacks a Metered Dose Inhaler should be used. Encourage relaxation.
- If the child does not
 - feel better in 5-10 minutes,
 - is distressed or exhausted,
 - is unable to talk in sentences,
 - has blue lips
 - or you have any doubts

Then the action required is...

- one adult should stay with pupil and use reliever inhaler via spacer while another adult dials 999 for ambulance and states that the child is having a severe asthma attack requiring immediate attention.
- Continue to give relief inhaler while help arrives as per instructions on inhaler.
- Inform parents of the situation and actions taken.
- The incident should then be recorded in the school emergency medical books

Forgotten or Lost Inhalers

- If a child's condition does not indicate the need to dial 999 i.e. not a severe attack, contact parents to bring in inhaler or collect child.
- If the child is experiencing a severe attack call 999 without delay. .

Training

- Head teachers are responsible for assessing and arranging for training needs to be met.

Home/School Liaison

- Parents are asked to complete and update asthma records on admission, and to update them annually. They are also required to update them more frequently if the condition or medication changes.
- Absence of parental consent should not stop staff from acting appropriately in emergencies.
- Parents will be informed if an inhaler is used during the day by use of medical slip which the child will take home

Minimising exposure to triggers

Named First Aiders at Ysgol San Sior are

Mrs Lindsey Lewis Jones
Mrs Amy Darby

APPENDIX 1

Asthma Record (Care Plan)

Surname

First Name

My child's details and contact numbers:

Date of Birth

Parent(s) name(s)

Telephone Home Work
Mobile

Doctor (GP) name

Doctor (GP) telephone

Asthma nurse

Known triggers/allergies

Any other medical problems?

My Child's Medication

Reliever medication (usually blue)

Medication name (e.g. SALBUTAMOL)	Device (e.g. diskhaler)	Dose (e.g. 1 blister)	When taken (e.g. when wheezy, before exercise)

Other Medication

Most preventers can be taken outside of school hours – check with your GP or asthma nurse

Medication name	How taken/device	Dose	When taken

Emergency Treatment

In the event of a severe asthma I am happy for my child to receive up to 10-20 puffs of their reliever (usually Salbutamol) inhaler via a spacer until they get further medical help.

Signed: (Parent) Date