

Grafton School Asthma Policy

Aims:

- To keep all children safe and healthy
- To raise the profile of asthma in the school
- To educate the whole school about the risks of asthma
- To help asthma sufferers help themselves
- To support staff to help those affected by asthma

Objectives

We will:

- Keep a reviewed and updated asthma register
- Train staff regularly to meet the needs of our children
- Keep asthma inhalers in a central location which will be accessible to children
- Write and update individual plans with the involvement of parents and children which are shared with all staff
- Keep a record with the child of when an inhaler is used
- Consider preventative steps to avoid children suffering from an asthma attack
- Teach about asthma as part of the PSHE and PE curriculums
- Promote awareness of asthma through focus weeks and assemblies
- Regularly update staff
- Have a named designated officer for asthma

The current designated officer is Christella Savva

Procedures

New Entries and diagnosis

New entries to school are asked about allergies or any other medical condition that their child may suffer from including asthma. If a child who is already a member of our school is diagnosed then a parent will come into the school. The following will be completed in both cases:

If a child is asthmatic then a parent will complete a care plan with the designated officer for asthma who is currently Christella Savva.

The designated officer for asthma will request that an inhaler and associated equipment is brought into school. They will check that the inhaler is prescribed for the child and then label the inhaler and any other equipment which is placed in a wallet with the child's name, picture, list of contents and care plan. The child's name will then be added to asthma register. Both teaching and support staff will be informed.

All medical care plans are also kept in a green folder in the school office.

Storing Inhalers

All inhalers are stored in a medical cabinet in the main school office and are accessible to all asthmatic children and staff.

Once a day the designated officer for asthma checks that inhalers are in the medical cabinet. If inhalers are missing then parents will be informed immediately and an alternative inhaler will be requested. The child will be monitored until the inhaler arrives in school.

A list is kept of inhaler expiry dates which is checked; inhalers are inspected for use. A new inhaler is requested a month before expiry or when it is considered that it is becoming empty.

It is possible that the school may decide to keep additional inhalers to use in the case of emergency.

Administering

Each care plan is individual, in some cases an inhaler may only be used when required on other occasions a child may need to use an inhaler on a regular basis.

In the case of a child needing an inhaler regularly, this will be administered by the first aid member of staff on duty following the child's care plan. The designated officer for asthma will inform each child who the first aider on duty is. A duty list is available in the school office.

If a child suffers as attack:

Keep the child calm

The child's inhaler wallet is sent for

The care plan is followed for administering the inhaler

The designated officer is informed

Emergency services are requested if required.

Using Inhalers off the school site

If a class or child is leaving the school site then one member of support staff who is first aid trained will collect all inhalers for those children who are leaving the site and keep them in the class/group first aid bag.

Administering will follow the section above.

Evaluation and review

Once a term the designated officer reviews the care plan and use of any inhalers, with parents and carers. Subsequently requests new inhalers from parents will be made if required.

Prevention and Promotion

Weather, air quality and personal illness can contribute to increased levels of asthma, all are monitored by the designated officer and advice given to children and staff when necessary regarding preventative actions e.g. reduced physical activity or staying inside at break times.

Health awareness weeks are held regularly with a focus on physical well-being and asthma. Grafton is a healthy school bronze award holder.

PSHE and PE

All asthmatic children are expected to take part in physical activity which is promoted by the school (except see above). Physical well-being is encouraged and ensured through the PSHE and PE curriculums. Please see curriculum plans for both areas.

Training

All staff received first aid training bi-yearly. Additionally the designated officer for asthma receives training as appropriate and as identified with a member of the senior leadership team.

Other Agencies

The school works closely with the St Johns, the school nurse service, LBI Occupational H and S, The Whittington Hospital and other primary care agencies relevant to our children.

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Written by: Christella Savva and Andrew Turnock 28th January 2015

