

## School Policies

Policy title	ASTHMA
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Written on	D Barnett	Reviewed on	April 2018	Next review due	April 2019
SLT link	DBA		Governor link		

Copies in	Policies folder X	Handbook	Student planner	Website
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### A POSITIVE APPROACH:

We welcome students with asthma in the college. We encourage them to take a full part in all activities of the College.

### ASTHMA EDUCATION:

We have a responsibility to advise all staff - teachers, First Aiders, ancillary staff, lunchtime supervisors and part time Tutors/Youth Leaders- on practical Asthma management. We actively encourage the involvement of the School Nursing Service in this.

### PARENTS:

We ask all parents whether their child has asthma (or is ever wheezy). We keep a record of all pupils with asthma. We ask parents to give us details of treatment, with clear guidance on correct usage. The National Asthma Campaign School Asthma Card is a clear and practical treatment record, and we promote the use of this card as part of good practice in asthma management.

**ACCESS TO INHALERS:** Students need to bring a reliever inhaler to school, for use in school and on the way to and from school. They also need to bring a preventer inhaler if this has to be taken during the day. The inhaler will normally be kept by the pupil himself or herself and should be carried around by them at all times. We recognise it is essential that students should have access to this inhaler at all times - in the classroom, during P.E. lessons, at break and lunchtimes and on school trips.

We welcome the provision of an additional reliever inhaler to be kept in the college office, for use at any time when the student has forgotten or mislaid their inhaler. Such inhalers must be clearly labelled with the student's name and form, and must be regularly renewed.

### P.E. LESSONS:

P.E. teachers have an important role to play in the good management of asthma in the college. The aim of total normal activity should be the goal for all but the most severely affected pupil with asthma. However, nearly all young people with asthma can become wheezy during exercise.

P.E. teachers should be aware that a number of pupils with asthma will take a dose of their reliever inhaler and/or Inhale before exercise. This helps to prevent exercise-induced asthma. If the pupil does become wheezy or breathless a further dose of the reliever inhaler should be taken.

P.E. staff must ensure that the reliever inhalers are taken to any place where a P.E. activity is being held. Pupils who are normally active should not be forced to participate in PE if they say they are too wheezy to continue.

A pupil who is noted to be over-reliant on their reliever inhaler has poorly controlled asthma, and needs to consult their doctor (non-urgently).

#### PASSIVE SMOKING:

Both staff and students should understand that inhaling someone else's cigarette smoke can trigger attacks of asthma. The College's No Smoking Policy should ensure that pupils are not exposed to this hazard.

#### NEBULISERS:

Some students with severe asthma may use a Nebuliser which is an electric device. In such cases we would wish to liaise closely with the GP/Nurse on correct management.

#### PETS:

We do not normally keep pets which might cause problems for children with asthma in school. Teachers planning school trips to places with animals need to bear in mind the effects this might have on children with asthma.

#### SCIENCE LABORATORIES:

Fumes from Science experiments can trigger symptoms or attacks in pupils with asthma. Fume cupboards should be used to avoid this.

#### THE ASTHMA ATTACK: WHAT TO DO:

A pupil having an asthma attack will normally respond well and quickly to their reliever treatment. However, severe attacks of asthma need urgent medical attention. In rare cases asthma can prove fatal, and so it must never be underestimated.

All staff need to know how to help in an attack, and what to do in an emergency.

A copy of the procedure for the treatment of an asthma attack should be displayed in the first aid room.