

Longmoor Primary School

Asthma Policy

2025



<i>Chair of Governors</i> <i>Signature: J. Wright</i>	<i>Date: 9th July 2025</i>
<i>Chair of Governors</i> <i>Signature: J. Wright</i>	<i>Date: 10th July 2024</i>
<i>Chair of Governors</i> <i>Signature: J. Wright</i>	<i>Date: 5th July 2023</i>
<i>Chair of Governors</i> <i>Signature: J. Wright</i>	<i>Date: 4th July 2022</i>
<i>Chair of Governors</i> <i>Signature: J. Wright</i>	<i>Date: 7th July 2021</i>

What is Asthma?

Asthma is an increasingly common condition which affects the airways in the lungs. Symptoms occur in response to exposure to a trigger e.g. pollen, dust, smoke, exercise etc. Symptoms include:

- coughing
- wheezing
- chest tightness
- breathlessness.
- being unusually quiet
- difficulty in speaking in sentences

Symptoms are usually easily reversible by use of a reliever inhaler but all staff must be aware that sufferers may experience an acute episode which will require rapid medical or hospital treatment.

Longmoor Primary recognises that asthma is a serious but controllable condition and has the following procedures in place to ensure children are cared for when on site. School aims to ensure that all children within school are able to fully participate in all aspects of school life and recognises the importance of access to inhalers.

School requires all parents to complete a medical form detailing a diagnosis of asthma and instructions on dosage, timings and any specific side effects. This form must be updated annually to allow for any changes in dosage or specific instructions. These records are then kept in a central file in the office IT drive, on Medical Tracker and RM (move to Abour in Autumn 2025). The class teacher will ensure that any other adults working within the classroom are aware of a child's asthma diagnosis so that support and assistance is consistent.

Inhalers

Children who have asthma must have their own labelled inhaler in school at all times. These will be kept securely but readily available by the teacher who must ensure that these are present for the children to use when working away from the classroom (hall and field for P.E, swimming, trips etc). School will actively encourage children to take responsibility for their inhaler as they get older though overall responsibility within school remains that of the teacher.

Staff

Staff should ensure that they are aware of all the children within their class who have an inhaler. Staff should also check that children who have asthma in their class have their inhaler available when taking part in P.E activities or when they are working away from the school site.

How to help a child who is having an asthma attack

Keep calm and don't panic.

Encourage the child to sit up and slightly forwards

Give the child/young person two puffs of their reliever (blue) inhaler - preferably through a spacer.

Loosen tight clothing.

Provide reassurance.

After a minor asthma attack a child will normally be able to rejoin normal activities.

Parents / carers must be informed of an attack.

If there is no improvement after 5 minutes:

Give at least 5 (max 10) puffs of reliever slowly through spacer. This should last 4 hours.

CALL 999 IMMEDIATELY IF:

- Symptoms do not improve after 5-10 minutes.
- They are too breathless to talk.
- Their lips are blue.
- The child/young person collapses.
- You have any doubt about the child/young person's condition. Whilst awaiting the ambulance, continue to give reliever inhaler as instructed by operator.

Parents Responsibility

Ensure medical forms are completed and returned to school promptly.

Inform school of any changes in dosage or specific instructions immediately.

Provide school with a labelled and current inhaler which can be kept in school.

This policy will be reviewed annually.