



CHADSMEAD PRIMARY ACADEMY

Developing roots
to grow and wings to fly

A QUICK GUIDE FOR
PARENTS AND CARERS

Understanding Asthma Support at School

Every child with asthma
needs an action plan

Our Supporting Children with Medical Conditions Policy sets out how we support pupils with asthma and other conditions. This short guide picks out what we most need from parents and carers.

The full policy is available from the school office and on our website.





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ASTHMA NEEDS ITS OWN ACTION PLAN

It's easy to think an asthma action plan is only needed where asthma sits alongside an allergy. It isn't — every child with an asthma diagnosis should have one, whatever the cause of their asthma.

Please ask your child's GP, asthma nurse or paediatrician

- ✓ It should be completed and signed by a healthcare professional — a clinical document, not something school can write.
- ✓ It records your child's triggers, symptoms, day-to-day medication and what to do if symptoms get worse.
- ✓ It becomes part of your child's Individual Healthcare Plan (IHP).
- ✓ Please bring us a copy as soon as you have one, and let us know whenever it's reviewed or changes.

A pupil has one Individual Healthcare Plan covering all of their medical conditions.





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KNOW THE SIGNS

Recognising an asthma attack

Asthma symptoms can develop quickly. Staff are trained to take them seriously and to act without delay.

Signs to watch for

- ✓ Persistent coughing, wheezing or a whistling sound when breathing.
- ✓ Tight chest, breathlessness, or struggling to talk in full sentences.
- ✓ Needing their reliever inhaler more often than usual, or it not helping as much as normal.



Our spare emergency inhaler — please don't rely on it

We hold one spare reliever inhaler and spacer, stored with our emergency adrenaline devices.

It can only be used for a child who already has a known asthma diagnosis and an existing prescription, and only with your written consent.

This is a safety net, not a substitute — your child should always have their own labelled inhaler and spacer in school.



OUR APPROACH

Supporting your child day to day

Children who are able to, will be encouraged to take responsibility for managing their own inhaler, and can carry it with them wherever possible.

We won't send a child with asthma home, or stop them joining normal school life, unless their plan says this is needed.



WHAT WE ASK OF YOU

- ✓ Tell us about an asthma diagnosis as soon as you have one — even if there's no allergy involved.
- ✓ Request a signed Asthma Action Plan from your child's doctor or asthma nurse, and pass a copy to the office.
- ✓ Provide a labelled, in-date reliever inhaler and spacer for school to keep, and replace it before it runs out or expires.
- ✓ Let us know promptly if symptoms change, medication changes, or your child has an attack outside of school.



Questions? Contact the school office.