ASTHMA POLICY 2026/27

Primary School

School	_____
Policy owner	Rebecca Shickle – Asthma Lead
Asthma Champion	Patrycja Tor
Approved by	_____
Approval date	___17_ / ___09_ / 2026
Review date	Sep 2027
Whole-school asthma training	10/09/2026
Training attendance	Over 85% of staff

Status: Draft for school approval and adoption. This policy should be read alongside the school's Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy, First Aid Policy and relevant Individual Healthcare Plans.

1. Purpose and commitment

The school recognises asthma as a common long-term medical condition that can affect a pupil's safety, wellbeing, attendance and participation in school life. The school will support pupils with asthma so that they can participate fully and safely in education, PE, trips, clubs and other school activities.

The school will maintain clear arrangements for identifying pupils with asthma, ensuring access to medication, responding to asthma attacks, recording inhaler use, communicating with parents/carers and reviewing practice annually.

2. Roles and responsibilities

The Asthma Lead is Rebecca Shickle. The Asthma Champion is Patrycja Tor.

The Asthma Lead will support implementation of this policy at leadership level. The Asthma Champion will coordinate practical asthma arrangements, maintain oversight of the asthma register and emergency kit arrangements, support staff awareness, monitor expiry checks and liaise with parents/carers, the school nursing team and other relevant healthcare professionals as required.

All staff are expected to know which pupils have asthma, know where inhalers and emergency arrangements are located, understand the school's emergency asthma procedure and report relevant concerns or inhaler use to the Asthma Lead/Champion.

3. Asthma register and individual information

The school will maintain an up-to-date asthma register. The register will identify pupils known to have asthma or prescribed reliever medication and will record relevant emergency inhaler consent.

Parents/carers will be asked to provide current medical information and a personalised asthma action plan where available. The school will keep records up to date when parents/carers report changes to a pupil's condition or treatment.

The school currently has 10 pupils confirmed as having asthma. This figure will be reviewed against the current medical records before final audit sign-off.

4. Pupils' inhalers and spacers

Pupils must have easy and immediate access to their reliever/rescue inhaler and spacer where one is required.

For this primary school, pupils' individual inhalers are stored in their classrooms so that they can be accessed quickly. Staff must know where the medication is kept. During PE, trips, clubs and off-site activities, arrangements must ensure that the pupil's inhaler and spacer remain readily available.

Medication should be clearly labelled for the individual pupil and stored appropriately. Expiry dates will be checked regularly, at least every half term, and parents/carers will be informed when replacement medication is required.

5. Emergency salbutamol inhaler

The school keeps an emergency asthma inhaler kit. The emergency kit is identified as the GREEN GRAB BAG.

The emergency inhaler is for eligible pupils in accordance with the school's emergency inhaler protocol and written parental consent requirements. It may be used when an eligible pupil's own reliever inhaler is unavailable, empty or not working.

The kit will be checked regularly and after use. Checks will include inhaler expiry dates, availability of compatible single-use spacers, instructions and the required administration record. Used or expired items will be replaced promptly and disposed of appropriately.

6. What staff should do during an asthma attack

Staff must act promptly and stay with the child. The child's reliever inhaler and spacer should be brought to the child; the child should not be sent away alone to collect medication.

Staff should follow the pupil's current personalised asthma action plan and the school's displayed emergency asthma procedure. The pupil should be kept calm, sitting upright and reassured. If symptoms do not improve, if the reliever is not helping, or if staff are worried at any time, emergency assistance must be sought in accordance with the emergency plan, including calling 999 where indicated.

After an incident, inhaler use must be recorded and the parent/carer informed. Relevant follow-up concerns should be shared with the Asthma Lead/Champion and school nursing/healthcare services as appropriate.

7. Recording inhaler use and informing parents

The school will keep an accurate record when a pupil is given or supervised taking an inhaler, including date, time, medicine/dose and staff details as appropriate.

The school's electronic Medical Tracker may be used for recording and parent/carer communication. Parents/carers will be informed when their child uses an inhaler at school. Use of the school emergency inhaler will be recorded specifically in line with the emergency inhaler protocol.

8. Staff training

Whole-school asthma training took place on 10 September 2026, with more than 85% of staff attending.

Asthma awareness will be maintained through annual training/updates. Staff should be able to recognise signs of an asthma attack, understand the emergency response, know how pupils access inhalers and know how to obtain support from the Asthma Lead/Champion.

Training evidence, including attendance records and relevant certificates, will be retained as part of the Asthma Friendly School evidence pack.

9. PE, educational visits and school activities

Pupils with asthma should be included in PE and other school activities. Asthma alone should not prevent participation, although a pupil should not be forced to continue an activity if they feel unwell.

Staff responsible for PE, clubs, trips and off-site activities must know which participating pupils have asthma and ensure their required inhaler/spacer is accessible. Risk assessments for off-site and residential visits should take account of routine and emergency medication arrangements and access to emergency help.

10. Parents' and carers' responsibilities

Parents/carers are expected to inform the school if their child has asthma and provide accurate, current information about their child's needs. They should provide an in-date, working inhaler and spacer where required, clearly labelled for the child, and provide the school with a current personalised asthma action plan where available.

Parents/carers should inform the school of changes to medication or asthma management and replace medication when requested because it is expired, nearly expired, empty or otherwise unsuitable.

11. Monitoring attendance and asthma control

Where asthma appears to be affecting a pupil's attendance, punctuality, learning, participation or wellbeing, the school will contact the parent/carer and consider whether further support or clinical review is needed.

Patterns of frequent reliever use or concerns about asthma control should be escalated to the Asthma Lead/Champion and, where appropriate, discussed with the school nursing team or other relevant healthcare professionals.

12. Policy monitoring and annual audit

The Asthma Lead and Asthma Champion will review implementation of this policy and support completion of the annual Asthma Friendly School audit.

The school will maintain evidence including the asthma register, staff training records, emergency kit checks, expiry checks, administration records, emergency plan display checks and relevant parent/carer communications.

This policy will be reviewed annually, or sooner if national/local guidance, school procedures or pupil needs materially change.

13. Key school arrangements at a glance

Arrangement	School position
Asthma Lead	Rebecca Shickle
Asthma Champion	Patrycja Tor
Known pupils with asthma	10 – final register to be reconciled before sign-off
Pupil inhalers	Stored in pupils' classrooms for immediate access
Emergency kit	Yes – GREEN GRAB BAG
Whole-school training	10/09/2026
Training attendance	Over 85%
Emergency asthma plan	To be displayed in prominent locations and checked as part of audit evidence

14. Reference framework

This policy has been drafted from the London Asthma Friendly Schools Guide (2025), the school's 2026/27 Asthma Friendly School audit requirements, Department for Education statutory guidance on supporting pupils with medical conditions, and Department of Health and Social Care guidance on emergency salbutamol inhalers in schools.

Note for approval: as of September 2026, the Department for Education states that the existing Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions statutory guidance remains in force while revised medical-conditions guidance is being developed. The school should review this policy when revised guidance is published.

Signed (Headteacher): _____ Date: _____

Signed (Asthma Lead): _____ Date: _____