Shakespeare Junior School

Asthma Policy 2026

This policy has been written with advice from the Department for Education and Employment, National Asthma Campaign, the local education authority, the school health service, parents, the governing body and pupils.

Name Of School:	**Shakespeare Junior School**
Date Of Policy Review:	**March 2026**
Date Of Next Policy Review:	**March 2027**
Name(s) Of Responsible Manager:	**Mrs Wilson & Miss Lewis**
Name Of Headteacher:	**Mrs Wilson**

Policy Statement

Shakespeare Junior School recognises that asthma is an important condition affecting many school children and positively welcomes all pupils with asthma. SJS encourages children with asthma to achieve their potential in all aspects of school life including PE by having a clear policy that is understood by school staff, their employers (the local education authority) and pupils. Supply teachers and new staff are also made aware of the policy.

Medication

Immediate access to reliever inhalers is vital. Children are encouraged to carry their reliever inhaler as soon as the parent, doctor or nurse and class teacher agree they are mature enough. The reliever inhalers of younger children are kept in the classroom in a red backpack in a visible position. Parents are asked to ensure that the school is provided with a labelled reliever inhaler. All inhalers must be labelled with the child's name by the parent.

School staff are not required to administer medication to children except in an emergency however our staff are happy to do this. School staff who agree to do this are insured by the local education authority when acting in accordance with this policy. All school staff will let children take their own medication when they need to. The school has two emergency inhalers that can be used if a child's inhaler has run out, expired or lost.

Record keeping

At the beginning of each school year, or when a child joins the school, parents are asked if their child has asthma. All parents of children with asthma are given a national Asthma Campaign school card to complete and return to the school. From this information the school keeps its asthma register which is available for all school staff. Cards are then sent to parents on an annual basis to update. If medication changes in between times, parents are asked to inform the school. Teachers log in a duplicated medical record book in the classroom if a child in their class has used their inhaler. A copy of this record is sent home at the end of the day for parents to monitor.

PE

Taking part in sports is an essential part of school life. PE teachers are aware of which children have asthma from the asthma register. Children with asthma are encouraged to participate fully in PE. Teachers will remind children whose asthma is triggered by exercise to take their reliever inhaler before the lesson and complete a warm up of a couple of short sprints over five minutes before the lesson. Each child's inhalers will be labelled and kept in a bag at the site of the lesson. If a child needs to use their inhaler during the lesson they will be encouraged to do so.

The School Environment

The school does all that it can to ensure the school environment is favourable to children with asthma. The school does not keep furry and feathery pets and has a non-smoking policy. As far as possible the school does not use chemicals in science and art lessons that are potential triggers for children with asthma.

Making the School Asthma Friendly

The school ensures that all children understand asthma. Asthma can be included in key stages 2 in science, design and technology, geography, history and PE of the national curriculum. Children with asthma and their friends are encouraged to learn about asthma; information for children and teens can be accessed from our website www.asthma.org.uk.

When a Child is Falling Behind in Lessons

If a child is missing a lot of time from school because of asthma or is tired in class because of disturbed sleep and falling behind in class, the class teacher will initially talk to the parents. If appropriate the teacher will then talk to the school nurse and Inclusion Lead about the situation. The school recognises that it is possible for children with asthma to have special educational needs because of asthma.

Asthma Attacks

All staff who come into contact with children with asthma know what to do in the event of an asthma attack:

- Ensure that the reliever inhaler is taken immediately;
- Stay calm and reassure the child;
- Help the child to breathe by ensuring tight clothing is loosened.

After the attack:

Minor attacks should not interrupt a child's involvement in school. When they feel better, they can return to school activities. The child's parents must be told about the attack.

Emergency procedure:

Call the child's parents urgently from the Admin Office, using ARBOR to find up-to-date contact numbers, if:

- The reliever has no effect after five to ten minutes;
- The child is either distressed or unable to talk;
- The child is getting exhausted;
- You have any doubts at all about the child's condition.

If the parent is unobtainable or the child's condition deteriorates, call an ambulance