

# Our Lady of Walsingham Catholic Primary School



Medication Policy



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*"Sowing the seeds for the future"*

## SCHOOL POLICY ON MEDICATIONS

Prescribed medication may be sent into school once the parent/carer has spoken to the Headteacher, explained the circumstances and completed the required consent procedures. The nominated member of staff (Head, Deputy, named senior teacher) will supervise the child while they take the medicine/tablets themselves. All medication will be stored in a secure cupboard away from pupil access.

## SCHOOL TRIPS INVOLVING OVERNIGHT STAYS.

Staff accompanying children will administer medications only as deemed necessary on doctor's advice providing:

1. Parents advise staff of medication required.
2. All medicines are handed to staff by parents prior to departure from school.
3. All medication is clearly labelled with the child's name and is accompanied by written instructions regarding dosage and frequency of dosage.
4. Parents notify staff of the name and telephone number of the family doctor.

## ASTHMA

Where the school has received notification on the appropriate form of children requiring the use of inhalers:

Staff will supervise taking of inhalers in the event of an asthma attack in line with the procedures outlined in the school policy on asthma.

## ASTHMA POLICY

## OUR APPROACH

This school:-

1. \* will encourage and help children with asthma to participate fully in all aspects of school life
2. \* will do all it can to make sure that the school environment is favourable to children with asthma.
3. \* will help other children to understand asthma so that they can support their friends.
4. \* has a clear understanding of what to do in the event of a child having an asthma attack.
5. \* recognises that immediate access to inhalers is vital and has drawn up the following procedures:
  - a) For Parents
    - That they notify the school by completing and returning the school asthma form.
    - That they send in to school a spare inhaler for emergency use, clearly marked with the child's name.
    - That they are aware of the procedure that the school will follow in the event of an asthma attack.
    - That they will be sent a copy of the school asthma policy, when notification of an asthmatic child is received.
  - b) For Staff (including welfare and ancillary staff)
    - That they are in possession of a copy of the school asthma policy.
    - That they are made aware, through appropriate training and advice, of the problems caused by asthma.
    - That they are aware of the procedure to be followed in the event of an asthma attack.

As displayed on notices throughout the school as indicated below:-

#### THE ASTHMA ATTACK - WHAT TO DO

If an asthmatic pupil becomes breathless and wheezy or coughs continually:

1. Keep calm. It's treatable.
2. Let the pupil sit down in the position they find most comfortable. Do not make them lie down.
3. Let the pupil take their usual reliever treatment - normally a blue inhaler. If the pupil has forgotten their inhaler obtain the spare one from the Secretary's Office.
4. If the symptoms disappear, the pupil can go back to what they were doing.

5. If the symptoms have improved, but not completely disappeared, call the parents and give another dose of inhaler while waiting for them.
6. If the normal medication has had no effect, see severe asthma attack below.

### WHAT IS A SEVERE ASTHMA ATTACK?

Any of these symptoms mean severe:

- \* Normal relief medication does not work at all.
- \* The pupil is breathless enough to have difficulty talking
- \* The pulse rate is 120 per minute or so.
- \* Rapid breathing of 30 breaths a minute or more.

### A SEVERE ASTHMA ATTACK

In the event of the above:-

1. Call parents, if not already done. Call the family doctor for immediate advice.
2. In emergency, dial 999 for ambulance.
3. Keep trying with the usual reliever inhaler every 5-10 minutes and don't worry about possible overdosing.