



Asthma Policy

**Agreed by Governors: Autumn 2025
To be reviewed: Autumn 2028**

This policy is based on the latest guidance from **Asthma + Lung UK**, the **Department of Health**, and recent school asthma policies.

Background

This policy has been developed in consultation with the Department for Education, Asthma + Lung UK, local healthcare professionals, the school health service, parents/carers, the governing body, and pupils.

Dothill Primary School recognises that asthma is a common, serious but manageable condition. We welcome all pupils and staff with asthma and are committed to ensuring they can participate fully in school life. Our policy aims to provide a safe, supportive, and inclusive environment for all.

Aims

- Ensure all pupils with asthma are supported to achieve their full potential.
- Provide staff with appropriate training and resources.
- Promote awareness and understanding of asthma across the school community.
- Maintain a safe environment that minimises asthma triggers.

Asthma Medicines and Management

Immediate Access

- Pupils must always have **immediate access** to their reliever inhalers.
- Inhalers are stored in **labelled containers** in classrooms, with the child's photo and care plan attached. All inhalers should be in their original containers, showing the pupil's name, expiry date, and prescription and administration information along with a completed *School Asthma Health Care Plan*.
- Pupils in **Key Stage 2** may carry their own inhaler with parental consent via the *Request for a Child to Carry Their Own Medication* form.

Emergency Inhalers

- The school holds an **emergency salbutamol inhaler** and spacer, in line with national guidance. [\[gov.uk\]](https://www.gov.uk)
- It will only be used for pupils with:
 - A diagnosed asthma condition.
 - Written parental consent via the *Emergency Inhaler Consent Form*.
- Emergency inhalers are stored securely and checked regularly for expiry and cleanliness.

Asthma Care Plans and Record Keeping

Every pupil with asthma must have a **Personalised Asthma Action Plan (PAAP)**. These plans are reviewed annually or sooner if medication or symptoms change.

- An **Asthma Register** is maintained and updated annually.
- Parents/carers complete an **Asthma Management Pack** upon enrolment and annually thereafter.
- Staff are informed of pupils with asthma and have access to the register.

Physical Activity and PE

- Pupils with asthma are encouraged to participate fully in PE and physical activities.
- Teachers ensure inhalers are available at the activity site.
- Pupils may use their inhaler before, during, or after exercise as needed.
- Staff are trained to recognise signs of poor asthma control and avoid over-reliance on reliever inhalers before exercise. [\[england.nhs.uk\]](https://www.england.nhs.uk)

Out-of-Hours Activities and School Trips

- Pupils with asthma are included in all school trips and extracurricular activities.
- Inhalers are taken on all trips and pupils are identified to supervising adults.
- Risk assessments include asthma considerations.

School Environment

The school maintains an **asthma-friendly environment**. We have a no-smoking or vaping policy; there is an avoidance of furry/feathery animals; minimised use of chemical triggers in lessons; and pupils may relocate to the office if exposed to triggers.

Staff Training

All staff receive **annual asthma training** from qualified professionals. Training includes the following:

- Recognising asthma symptoms.
- Administering inhalers and spacers.
- Responding to asthma attacks.

Asthma Attacks

Staff follow the **Asthma UK emergency protocol**:

1. Stay calm and reassure the pupil.
2. Help them sit upright and slightly forward.
3. Assist with their inhaler or use the emergency inhaler if needed.
4. Administer up to 10 puffs (2 puffs every 2 minutes).
5. Call 999 if symptoms persist or worsen.
6. Inform parents/carers and accompany the child to hospital if necessary.

Posters outlining this procedure are displayed in classrooms, the staffroom, and near medication storage areas.

Staff with Asthma

Staff with asthma should inform the Headteacher to ensure appropriate support and adjustments are made.

Equal Opportunities

This policy aligns with our Equal Opportunities Policy. All pupils and staff with asthma are treated with respect and supported to access all aspects of school life.

Monitoring and Review

This policy is reviewed annually or sooner if guidance changes. Feedback from staff, parents, and pupils is welcomed to improve asthma care at school.