

St Andrew's Church of England Primary School



**Crescent Avenue
Over Hulton
Bolton
BL5 1EN**



Head Teacher: Mr Simon Charnock

Dear Parents

Since 1st October 2014 the Human Medicines (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2014 allowed schools to buy Salbutamol inhalers, without a prescription, for use in emergencies.

The emergency Salbutamol inhaler should only be used by children, for whom written parental consent for use of the emergency inhaler has been given, who have either been diagnosed with asthma and prescribed an inhaler, or who have been prescribed an inhaler as reliever medication.

The inhaler can be used if the pupil's prescribed inhaler is not available (for example, because it is broken, or empty). This change applies to all primary and secondary schools in the UK. Schools are not required to hold an inhaler – this is a discretionary power enabling schools to do this if they wish. Schools which choose to keep an emergency inhaler should establish a policy or protocol for the use of the emergency inhaler based on this guidance.

Keeping an inhaler for emergency use will have many benefits. It could prevent an unnecessary and traumatic trip to hospital for a child, and potentially save their life. Parents are likely to have greater peace of mind about sending their child to school. Having a protocol that sets out how and when the inhaler should be used will also protect staff by ensuring they know what to do in the event of a child having an asthma attack.

Our protocol is as follows:

- The emergency Salbutamol inhaler is provided by a reputable pharmacy, stored with the first aid cabinet in the main office, monitored by our first aid lead professional, and disposed of in line with the schools Medical Care Policy.
- School has a register of children in the school that have been diagnosed with asthma or prescribed a reliever inhaler, a copy of which is kept with the emergency inhaler.
- School has written parental consent for use of the emergency inhaler
- Staff are aware that the emergency inhaler is only used by children with asthma with written parental consent for its use
- The appropriate support and training for staff in the use of the emergency inhaler in line with the schools Medical Care Policy.
- Records are kept of the use of the emergency inhaler as required. Parents are informed that their child has used the emergency inhaler
- At least two staff are responsible for ensuring the protocol is followed. These are currently Mr Charnock and Mrs Pearse.

Our records show that your child has been diagnosed with asthma. Please sign and return the permission form attached to allow us to use an inhaler in case of emergency, as detailed above.

Thank you

Simon Charnock
Headteacher



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Parental agreement for school to administer emergency asthma medication

Name of child

Date of birth

Class

Contact details

Name

Daytime phone no.

Relationship to child

I give permission for a designated adult to administer the school's Salbutamol inhaler medication in case of an emergency

Date _____ Signature _____ Parent/Guardian



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