



THE EDWARD RICHARDSON PRIMARY SCHOOL

ASTHMA POLICY

Date of last review	Autumn 2026
Term next due for update	Autumn 2027
Member of staff responsible for this update	Headteacher
Asthma Champion	C. Winter
Requirement	Non-statutory (in line with statutory guidance for medical conditions)

Statement of intent

The Edward Richardson Primary School is committed to ensuring that all pupils with asthma are supported effectively to enable full participation in school life. The school recognises its responsibility to provide a safe and inclusive environment for pupils with medical conditions and to respond appropriately to asthma-related needs.

The arrangements within this policy are based on guidance for supporting pupils with medical conditions and are designed to complement the school's First Aid Policy.

The school will take every reasonable precaution to ensure the safety and wellbeing of pupils with asthma. Throughout this policy, any reference made to 'parents' also refers to carers with responsibility for the day-to-day care of pupils attending the school.

This policy aims to:

- ensure that pupils with asthma are properly supported in school;
- ensure that staff are aware of procedures for managing asthma and responding to an asthma attack;
- ensure that medication is accessible and appropriately managed;
- reduce exposure to asthma triggers within the school environment;
- ensure effective communication between school, parents and healthcare professionals.

Nothing in this policy will affect the ability of any person to contact the emergency services in the event of a medical emergency. Staff should dial 999 in the event of a severe asthma attack before implementing the procedures outlined in this policy.

1. Legal framework

1.1 This policy has due regard to legislation and statutory guidance, including, but not limited to:

- The Children and Families Act 2014
- The Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974
- The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999
- DfE (2015) 'Supporting pupils at school with medical conditions'

1.2 This policy is implemented in conjunction with the following school policies:

- First Aid Policy
- Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions and Intimate Care Policy
- Health and Safety Policy
- Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy

2. Roles and responsibilities

2.1 The governing board is responsible for ensuring that appropriate arrangements are in place to support pupils with asthma and that staff receive suitable training.

2.2 The Asthma Champion, Charlotte Winter, is responsible for the implementation of this policy, ensuring that all staff and parents are aware of procedures relating to asthma management, and that appropriate systems are in place.

2.3 The Asthma Champion, Charlotte Winter, is responsible for overseeing asthma provision within the school, maintaining the asthma register, supporting staff training and acting as the main point of contact for asthma-related matters.

2.4 Staff are responsible for familiarising themselves with this policy, knowing which pupils have asthma, supporting access to medication and responding appropriately in the event of an asthma attack.

3. Asthma triggers

3.1 Staff recognise that asthma symptoms may be triggered by a variety of factors including respiratory infections, physical activity, allergens such as dust and pollen, air pollution, weather changes, smoke and emotional factors.

3.2 Staff will take reasonable steps to minimise exposure to triggers, including maintaining good ventilation, managing classroom environments and adapting activities where necessary.

4. Asthma register

4.1 The school maintains an up-to-date asthma register of all pupils diagnosed with asthma.

4.2 The register includes details of medication, known triggers and the presence of a personalised asthma action plan.

4.3 The register is reviewed regularly and shared with relevant staff to ensure appropriate awareness and support.

5. Medication

- 5.1 Pupils with asthma must have access to their reliever inhaler at all times.
- 5.2 Inhalers must be clearly labelled and stored in a way that ensures quick access.
- 5.3 Parents are responsible for ensuring that medication is in date and available.
- 5.4 Staff will support pupils, particularly younger children, in accessing and using their inhalers where necessary.
- 5.5 The storage and administration of medication will be carried out in line with the school's First Aid Policy.

6. Emergency medication

- 6.1 The school maintains an emergency asthma kit containing a salbutamol inhaler and spacers.
- 6.2 The emergency kit is stored in a central, accessible location known to staff (First aid room).
- 6.3 The contents of the kit are checked regularly to ensure they are in date and fit for use, by the Asthma Champion.

7. Personalised asthma action plans (PAAPs)

- 7.1 Pupils with asthma are encouraged to have a personalised asthma action plan provided by a healthcare professional.
- 7.2 Copies of plans are held within the school and made accessible to relevant staff.
- 7.3 Plans are reviewed annually or following any significant change in the pupil's condition.

8. Asthma attack procedures

- 8.1 In the event of an asthma attack, staff will follow the school's emergency procedures as outlined in the First Aid Policy.
- 8.2 The pupil will be kept calm and supported to sit upright and use their reliever inhaler.
- 8.3 If there is no improvement or symptoms worsen, emergency services will be contacted immediately.
- 8.4 A member of staff will remain with the pupil at all times, and parents will be informed as soon as possible.

9. School environment

- 9.1 The school is committed to providing an asthma-friendly environment.
- 9.2 Reasonable adjustments will be made to reduce exposure to triggers and support pupils' participation in all activities, including physical education.
- 9.3 Staff training and awareness will be promoted to ensure effective support for pupils with asthma.

10. Reporting and record keeping

10.1 All asthma-related incidents, including attacks requiring first aid or emergency intervention, will be recorded in line with the First Aid Policy.

10.2 Parents will be informed of any asthma-related incidents as soon as possible.

11. Offsite visits and events

11.1 Appropriate planning will take place to ensure that pupils with asthma are supported during offsite visits.

11.2 This includes ensuring access to inhalers, emergency medication and staff awareness of individual needs.