

CITY OF LONDON SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

MANAGEMENT OF ASTHMA GUIDELINES

The school takes its responsibilities to students with asthma very seriously and all students with asthma are encouraged to take a full part in all activities of the school.

Aims

- To enable all students with asthma to participate fully in all school activities.
- To ensure that all staff have a clear understanding of how to deal with a student having an asthma attack.
- To encourage all students to take responsibility for their own medication.
- Students, parents, school staff and asthma professionals to work together for a greater understanding of the effect of asthma and to adopt a responsible attitude to its treatment.

Procedure For Collecting Information About Students With Asthma

When joining City of London School for Girls parents/guardians are asked to declare any medical condition their daughter may have. **Asthma is a condition that the school needs to be made aware of.**

Every student must complete a School Asthma Card, giving details of treatment signed by the parent/guardian. This should be sent into school, and given to the School Nurse.

Parents should keep the school informed of changes in the course of the condition and the treatment.

Use of Inhalers

All students should have their own labelled, reliever inhaler with them at all times. They must take an inhaler with them into the Sports Hall, onto the sports field and on any school trip or journey. A spare, labelled, reliever inhaler together with a completed School Asthma Card may be kept in the Medical Room. The spare inhaler will be for emergency use.

Students have access to their spare inhaler at all times. However, the school cannot accept responsibility for any loss or damage to inhalers and parents should check details such as condition of the inhaler and expiry date etc. regularly.

Asthma and the P.E. Lesson

All students take part in P.E. lessons. Asthmatic students are responsible for taking their relief inhaler to the lesson and should not leave it in the changing room. Labelled, relief inhalers can be given to the teacher in charge at the start of the lesson for safekeeping, or, as in cross-country running, carried with the student.

Asthma and the Science and Technology Lessons

Fumes from Science experiments will often trigger symptoms or attacks in students with asthma. Fume cupboards will be used, whenever possible, to avoid this. When a fume cupboard is not available, asthmatic students will be asked to sit near an open window, to the back of the classroom.

In Biology lessons asthmatic students will be reminded not to sit near to animals, birds or pollen experiments.

In Technology lessons asthmatic students will be reminded to be aware of sawdust and the need to wear eye protection as necessary.

School Trips / Residential Visits

All prescribed medications must accompany the student and the member of staff in charge of the trip must be informed of name, dosage and frequency of administration of all medicine/ inhalers/ injections.

An updated list of pupils with important medical needs is on the shared area under staff/departments/ SEN and Medical.

Asthma Protocol

Asthma is potentially life threatening. It is a long term condition requiring the person to carry and administer their own medication at any time.

General Signs and Symptoms:

- Coughing
- Shortness of breath
- Wheezing
- Tightness in the chest
- Unable to speak in full sentences
- Younger children may complain of tummy ache

General Management:

- **DO NOT LEAVE PUPIL**
- Contact Reception (0) to get the School Nurse
- Sit the pupil up and loosen tight clothing
- Ensure the pupil takes 2 puffs of reliever medicine (usually an inhaler) preferably through a spacer
- Reassure
- Follow individual care plans on pupil's School Asthma Card
- If there is no improvement after 10 minutes or the pupil deteriorates (increasing breathlessness, unable to talk, blue tinge to lips) **call 999**
- Keep taking 1 puff of the inhaler every 1 minute until the ambulance arrives

- Contact the parents/carers

If you are concerned or in doubt always call 999

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