



Date Adopted: Spring 2024  
Date to be reviewed: Spring 2026

## Quadring Cowley and Brown's Primary School Asthma Policy

*At Quadring Cowley and Brown's Primary School we strive  
'to nurture and inspire all children to be well-rounded, confident  
and resilient individuals who love learning and are ready for life  
beyond school.'*

*Article 3- The best interests of the child must be top priority in all actions regarding children.*

## Quadring Cowley & Brown's Primary School Asthma Policy

### The Principles of our school Asthma Policy

- The School recognises that asthma is an important condition affecting many school children and welcomes all pupils with asthma
- Ensures that children with asthma participate fully in all aspects of school life including PE/Swimming.
- Recognises that immediate access to reliever inhalers is vital
- Keeps records of children with asthma and the medication they take
- Ensures the school environment is favourable to children with asthma
- Ensures that other children understand asthma
- Ensures all staff who come into contact with children with asthma know what to do in the event of an asthma attack
- Will work in partnership with all interested parties including all school staff, parents, governors, doctors and nurses, and children to ensure the policy is implemented and maintained successfully.

This policy has been written with advice from the Department for Education and Employment, National Asthma Campaign and the local education authority.

1. This school recognises that asthma is an important condition affecting many school children and positively welcomes all pupils with asthma.
2. This school encourages children with asthma to achieve their potential in all aspects of school life by having a clear policy that is understood by school staff, their employers (the local education authority) and pupils.  
Supply teachers and new staff are also made aware of the Policy. All staff who come into contact with children with asthma are provided with training on asthma on a 2 year cycle, from the School Nursing Team.

### Medication:

Immediate access to a reliever is vital. Children are encouraged to carry their reliever inhaler as soon as the parents, doctor or nurse and class teacher agree they are mature enough. The reliever inhalers of younger children are kept in the classroom.

Parents are asked to ensure that the school is provided with a labelled spare reliever inhaler. The class teacher will hold this separately in case the child's own inhaler runs out or is lost or forgotten.

All inhalers must be labelled with the child's name by the parent. School staff are not required to administer medication to children except in an emergency however many of our staff are happy to do this.

School staff who agree to do this are insured by the local education authority when acting in accordance with this policy. All school staff will let children take their own medication when they need to.

### **Record Keeping:**

At the beginning of each school year, or when a child joins the school, parents are asked if their child has asthma/medical conditions. From this information the school keeps its medical register which is available for all school staff.

Medical Care record requests are then sent to parents on an annual basis to update.

If medication changes in between times, parents are asked to inform the school. The school holds inhalers for each child and they are regularly checked for expiry dates by a member of staff.

### **PE/Sports:**

Taking part in sports is an essential part of school life. Teachers are aware of which children have asthma from the asthma register.

Children with asthma are encouraged to participate fully in PE.

Teachers will remind children whose asthma is triggered by exercise to take their reliever inhaler before the lesson.

Each child's inhalers will be labelled and kept in a green medical bag at the site of the lesson. If a child needs to use their inhaler during the lesson, they will be encouraged to do so.

### **The School Environment:**

The school does all that it can to ensure the school environment is favourable to children with asthma. The school does not keep furry and feathery pets and has a

non-smoking policy. As far as possible the school does not use chemicals in science and art lessons that are potential triggers for children with asthma.

### **Making the School Asthma Friendly:**

The school ensures that all children understand asthma. The condition of asthma can be included in Key Stages 1 and 2 in science, design and technology, geography, history and PE of the national curriculum. Children with asthma and their friends are encouraged to learn about asthma; information for children and teens can be accessed from the following website [www.asthma.org.uk](http://www.asthma.org.uk).

### **When a Child is falling behind in lessons:**

If a child is missing a lot of time from school because of asthma or is tired in class because of disturbed sleep and falling behind in class, the class teacher will initially talk to the parents.

If appropriate the teacher will then talk to the school nurse and special educational needs coordinator about the situation.

The school recognises that it is possible for children with asthma to have special education needs because of asthma.

### **Asthma Attacks:**

All staff who come into contact with children with asthma know what to do in the event of an asthma attack.

The school follows the following procedure:

1. Ensure that the reliever inhaler is taken immediately.
2. Stay calm and reassure the child.
3. Help the child to breathe by ensuring tight clothing is loosened.

### **After the attack:**

Minor attacks should not interrupt a child's involvement in school. When they feel better they can return to school activities. The child's parents must be told about the attack.

### **Emergency procedure:**

Call the child's doctor urgently from the secretary's office using the asthma register to find out the number of the GP if:

- The reliever has no effect after five to ten minutes
- The child is either distressed or unable to talk

- The child is getting exhausted
- You have any doubts at all about the child's condition

**If the Doctor is unobtainable, call 999 to request an ambulance**

- If for any reason the child stops breathing, an ambulance should be called immediately. A child should always be taken to hospital in an ambulance.

School staff should not take them in their car as the child's condition may deteriorate.

**Department of Health: Guidance on the Emergency Use and Storage of Inhalers in schools.**

From 1 October 2014 UK schools have been allowed to purchase a salbutamol inhaler without a prescription for use in emergencies when a child with asthma cannot access their own inhaler. This guidance provides schools that choose to keep an emergency inhaler the basis to create a policy or protocol for using it.

Please see the attached Guidance March 2015 DofH

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/emergency-asthma-inhalers-for-use-in-schools>



Guidance from  
Department of Health

This Policy should be read in conjunction with the following policies:

Safeguarding Policy  
SEND Policy  
Medicines in School Policy  
Medical Needs Policy

Appendix 1

**CONSENT FORM: USE OF EMERGENCY SALBUTAMOL INHALER**  
**Quadring Cowley and Brown's Primary School**

**Child showing symptoms of asthma / having asthma attack.**

1. I can confirm that my child has been diagnosed with asthma / has been prescribed an inhaler [delete as appropriate].
2. My child has a working, in-date inhaler, clearly labelled with their name, which they will bring with them to school every day and the school also holds a spare inhaler prescribed for my child.
3. In the event of my child displaying symptoms of asthma, and if their inhaler and spare inhaler are not available or are unusable, I consent for my child to receive salbutamol from an emergency inhaler held by the school for such emergencies.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name (print): \_\_\_\_\_

Child's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to child: \_\_\_\_\_

Class/Year Group: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's address and contact details:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Contact telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Appendix B**

**SPECIMEN LETTER TO INFORM PARENTS OF EMERGENCY SALBUTAMOL  
INHALER USE**

**Quadring Cowley and Brown's Primary School**

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Class/Year Group: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Dear.....,

This letter is to formally notify you that.....has had problems with his / her breathing today at ..... o'clock.

This happened when .....  
(description of what student was doing at the time and where he/she was).

- A member of staff helped them to use their asthma inhaler. They administered .....puffs.
- They did not have their own asthma inhaler with them, so a member of staff helped them to use the emergency asthma inhaler containing salbutamol. They were given ..... puffs.
- Their own asthma inhaler was not working, so a member of staff helped them to use the emergency asthma inhaler containing salbutamol. They were given ..... puffs.

Additional information.

Although they soon felt better, we would strongly advise that you have your son / daughter seen by your own doctor as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

