



ASTHMA POLICY

We at Next Level Sports (NLS)

- Recognise that Asthma is a condition affecting many children
- Welcome all pupils with Asthma
- Encourage all pupils to achieve their full potential in all aspects of our club
- Help and encourage pupils to manage their own condition effectively and safely
- Ensure pupils have the confidence to ask for support in school when needed.

WE BELIEVE THIS POLICY WILL

- Promote increased attendance, participation and achievement for pupils with asthma
- Enable all pupils to understand, appreciate and encourage the achievements of people with asthma.
- Enable staff to understand and assist pupils with asthma when necessary and appropriate Training
- The club has a regular programme of training and staff consultation, covering all the medical conditions, (including asthma) of all the children in their care.
- Training and updates are given to new staff, trainee teachers and other temporary members of staff where appropriate.
- All staff are made aware of where and when to ask for help in dealing with medical conditions.

Using inhalers and responsibilities – Where inhalers can be found – IN THE OFFICE IN CHILDREN'S MEDIATION BOX

- NSL understands that immediate access to inhalers is vital. Pupils should be allowed to carry and use their own inhalers as soon as their doctor and parents agree they are mature enough to do so.
- Younger children should have their inhalers stored safely in our office and should be available for use on request or when indicated.
- It is the parents/carers responsibility to ensure that the child has a labelled inhaler with the correct issue date and child's name on.
- It is the parents/carers responsibility to check the inhalers are checked termly and renewed where necessary and are fit for current use.
- Parents/carers are responsible for supplying new inhalers if it is lost, it runs out or is forgotten. Spare inhalers must also be checked and renewed annually.
- We are advised by Asthma UK that inhalers are an inherently safe medicine but clearly children should not be allowed to use each other's inhalers. It is club policy that staff may administrator another child's inhaler in an emergency.
- Staff can assist children with inhalers and nebulisers when acting in accordance with this policy.
- Staff are not required or able to supervise the administration of or to administer, any other medication associated with asthma.

MEDICAL INFORMATION AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- NLS has a system to inform staff of pupil's medical needs and the arrangements in place to meet them. When your child joins the club, parents/carers must inform staff if their child has asthma through the parents/carers registration form and in face to face discussions.
- Parents/Carers have the responsibility to inform the club if their child's medication for asthma changes, using a medicine form, which is available from the school office.
- NLS does not undertake to keep definitive record of all asthma incidents.

OUTSIDE ACTIVITIES

- NSL seeks to take all practical steps to encourage and enable pupils with asthma to take part in outdoor activities.
- All staff are aware that pupils must use their inhalers when they need to and will give appropriate support to children to take their inhaler before the lesson and/or warm up before exercise.
- NLS encourages pupils to work towards confidently managing their own asthma condition.



TRIGGERS FOR ASTHMA

NSL undertakes to do all it can to ensure that the environment is favourable for pupils, or members of staff with Asthma or other respiratory conditions.

ACTION TAKEN INCLUDES

- A No smoking policy throughout the club.
- Pets and animals will be managed to minimise the risk of an asthma attack.
- Alternatives will be used to chemicals or art materials which may trigger asthma. Where this is not possible alternative activities will be provided.
- Where the building works create a dusty environment, every effort will be taken to prevent attacks, but this is not completely risk free.

ASTHMA ATTACKS: ACTION TO TAKE

- Ensure the reliever inhaler (blue one) is taken immediately.
- Stay calm and reassure the child
- Help the child to breathe by ensuring that tight fitting clothing is loosened.
- If the child is in extreme distress CALL AN AMBULANCE.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURE/SEVERE ATTACKS

A severe attack is defined as:

- 1) The inhaler has no effect after five to ten minutes.
- 2) The child is distressed or unable to talk
- 3) The child is becoming exhausted
- 4) The child shows rapid signs of deterioration
- 5) There is any doubt at all about the child's condition

The procedure is **CALL AN AMBULANCE**

Repeat the inhaler every five minutes until the ambulance arrives. If a child is in severe distress or loses consciousness, call an ambulance **IMMEDIATELY**.

DISPLAY OF ACTION AND EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

The club will prominently display the information given above and particularly the information about severe attacks. The display will be available in the club.

MINOR ATTACKS

- Minor attacks should not interrupt a child's involvement in the club. A short rest period may be indicated.
- The child's parent/carer will be told about attacks which are minor, but frequent.

RECORDING A SEVERE ATTACK

- In the event of a child having a severe asthma attack it is the responsibility of the club to inform the parent/carer.
- Severe attacks will be recorded according to the club's normal procedures for recording medical incidents, where appropriate.
- It is the responsibility of the parent/carer to give the club contact telephone numbers in case of a severe attack.

These should consist of primary parent/carer workplace and home telephone numbers, A further contact number (which could be either parent or relative) in case they are not reachable at work, or home.



MONITORING

The effectiveness of the policy will be monitored in line with the club's monitoring and reviewing of policy procedures. Any questions regarding this policy should be directed to the Operation Director who is the club's lead teacher on this issue.

NOTES

- This policy has been agreed by club staff.
- Parents are entitled to view this document and parents of children with Asthma must receive a copy as a matter of course.
- Information regarding triggers for asthma is subject to change as further research is made known.
- This policy should be read in conjunction with the schools administering medicine policy.

This policy is based on advice taken from the DFES, The National Asthma Campaign and the School Nursing Service.