



Asthma Policy

Chair of Governors: _____ 

Executive Headteacher: Mr. Dean Gordon NPQEL

Date adopted: 04/12/2025

Review cycle: Every two years

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The Phoenix Federation Asthma Policy

Applies to:

- Grinling Gibbons Primary School
- Oak Gardens Primary School
- Grinling Gardens Primary School

Statement of Intent

The Phoenix Federation is committed to ensuring that all pupils with asthma are fully supported to participate in all aspects of school life. We recognise that asthma is a common, chronic condition and that with appropriate management and education, pupils with asthma can achieve their full potential. Our schools follow the principles of the NHS Asthma Friendly Schools Program and local guidance from Lewisham and Greenwich NHS Trust.

Roles and Responsibilities

The Governing Body:

Ensures this policy is implemented, monitored, and reviewed every two years.

Headteachers / Senior Leaders:

Oversee asthma management, ensure staff training, and maintain safe systems for asthma medication.

Asthma Lead / Champions:

Coordinates asthma care, maintain the asthma register, liaise with parents and healthcare professionals, and ensure all relevant staff are trained.

All Staff:

Know how to recognise and respond to an asthma attack, support pupils with asthma, and follow individual healthcare plans.

Parents / Carers:

Provides up-to-date information to the school about their child's asthma, including medication, triggers, and action plans.

Pupils:

When appropriate, take responsibility (KS2) for their inhalers (i.e. Ensuring they keep their bag that has their inhaler inside with them at all times whilst on a trip.) and communicate if they feel unwell or need to use their inhaler.

Asthma Register and Record Keeping

- Each school will maintain an up-to-date asthma register, including pupil details, triggers, medication, and emergency contacts.
- The register will be reviewed annually and whenever changes occur.
- Records of inhaler use in school will be maintained and shared with parents where appropriate.

Personalised Asthma Action Plans (PAAPs)

Parents and carers are encouraged to provide a Personalised Asthma Action Plan (PAAP), which should be completed by a healthcare professional. PAAPs outline usual treatment, triggers, and emergency procedures.

Plans will be reviewed annually and stored securely, with copies available to relevant staff.

Access to Medication and Emergency Inhalers

Pupils must always have easy access to their reliever inhalers. Parents are responsible for supplying inhalers and spacers. Each school will also keep an emergency inhaler kit (with parental consent) for use in emergencies. These kits will be stored in the school office and are clearly labelled, checked regularly, and maintained in line with the NHS guidance.

Recognising and Responding to an Asthma Attack

All staff will be trained to recognise the signs of an asthma attack and follow emergency procedures. In an asthma attack:

- The pupil should be helped to use their reliever inhaler (usually blue) with a spacer as instructed on the box/ asthma action plan.
- If no improvement after 10 puffs, or if symptoms are severe, call 999 immediately.
- Stay with the pupil until they recover or help arrives.
- Parents / carers will be informed as soon as possible.

Staff Training and Awareness

At least 85% of staff will receive asthma awareness training every two years, covering use of inhalers, recognition of asthma attacks, and emergency response, first aiders, and trip leaders (teachers) will receive enhanced training.

The Asthma Leads/Champions will maintain training records and ensure refresher training is scheduled.

Managing Triggers and the School Environment

We will identify and minimise asthma triggers such as dust, mould, pets, or strong odours at each school; ensure there is good ventilation, and that cleaning, and maintenance routines are being followed. Pupils will have access to inhalers during PE, outdoor activities, and off-site visits.

Physical Activities and School Trips

Children with asthma should fully participate in all physical education and off-site activities. Risk assessments will include asthma management, access to inhalers and emergency medication, and that trained staff are present.

Communication with Parents and Carers

Parents will be asked to update the school regarding any changes to their child's asthma treatment or condition. The school will notify parents if their child has needed to use their inhaler more frequently or has had an asthma incident at school.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Review

The Asthma Leads / Champions will review the effectiveness of this policy through annual audits, training records, and feedback from staff, pupils, and parents.

The policy will be reviewed every two years or sooner if required (e.g. after a serious asthma event or new NHS guidance).

Related Policies and Guidance

This policy should be read in conjunction with:

Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy

First Aid Policy

Health and Safety Policy

Educational Visits Policy

Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy

Guidance sources:

NHS Asthma Friendly Schools Programme

Lewisham and Greenwich NHS Trust Asthma Guidance

Asthma UK and British Thoracic Society Guidelines