


Southdown Primary School



Asthma Policy 2026

Chair of Governors:	Headteacher: 
Ratified on: 3rd March 2026	Review by: Spring Term 2027

SOUTHDOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL

Asthma Policy

Background

This policy has been written with advice from the Department for Education & Skills, Asthma UK, local healthcare professionals, the school health service, parents/carers, the governing body and pupils.

Southdown Primary School recognises that asthma is a widespread, serious but controllable condition affecting many pupils at the school. Southdown Primary School positively welcomes all pupils with asthma. The school encourages pupils with asthma to achieve their potential in all aspects of school life by having a clear policy that is understood by school staff.

All staff who come into contact with pupils with asthma are provided with training on asthma from the school nurse who has had asthma training. Staff will have training updates once a year.

Asthma Medication

Immediate access to reliever medication is essential. Older Pupils with asthma are encouraged to carry their own reliever inhaler with them at all times. This helps to promote independence and helps with compliance. Younger children will have their medication close to hand and where possible, this will be available for none classroom based activities e.g. PE, outside activities, trips away from the school.

Parents/carers are asked to ensure that the school is provided with a prescribed inhaler device, correctly labelled with the child's name and date of birth. All parents will be asked to fill out an Asthma UK School Asthma Card, which provides an individualised plan of care. The school will ask parents to update this card on a yearly basis or more frequently if treatment changes as identified by the parent.

School staff are not required to administer asthma medicines to pupils (except in an emergency), but may need to supervise younger children. All school staff will let pupils take their own asthma medication when they need to.

School has emergency Salbutamol inhalers. These are stored in the office. All parents of pupils on the asthma register have been contacted via writing (Appendix A), to obtain parental consent for use of these inhalers in an emergency. In the future, this consent form will be given to parents when they are registering their child as having asthma. This will enable staff to administer the inhaler in an emergency when their own inhaler is not available. Pupils who are diagnosed with asthma will use their own medication whenever possible. Any use of emergency inhalers will result in school contacting the parent and will follow our emergency procedure. (Appendix B)

Record Keeping

When a child joins Southdown Primary School, parents/carers are asked if their child has any medical conditions including asthma on their enrolment forms. All parents/carers of children who have been identified as having asthma are consequently sent an Asthma UK School asthma card which needs to be completed and returned to school. From this information, the school keeps its asthma register which is available to all staff on request. School Asthma Cards are given to parents once a year for updating. Parents/carers are also asked to update or exchange the card for a new one if their child's medicine changes during the year. If it is observed that a child is having to use their inhaler device more frequently than expected, parents will be informed so that further advice may be obtained from their GP/Asthma nurse.

Exercise and Activity - PE and Games

Taking part in sports, games and activities is an essential part of school life for all pupils. Teachers are able to check the asthma register and will be aware of those children who will need access to their medication. Pupils with asthma are encouraged to participate fully in all PE lessons. Teachers will remind pupils whose asthma is triggered by exercise to take their reliever inhaler before the lesson and for all pupils to thoroughly warm up and down before and after the lesson. Inhaler will be kept close to hand and if a pupil needs to use their inhaler during a lesson they will be encouraged to do so.

Out of Hours Sport

There has been a large emphasis in recent years on increasing the number of children and young people involved in exercise and sport in and out of school. The health benefits of exercise are well documented, and this is also true for children and young people with asthma. All pupils regardless of whether they have asthma or not will be encouraged to participate in after school activities/clubs.

School Environment

Southdown Primary School does all that it can to ensure the school environment is favourable to pupils with asthma. Teachers will be aware of potential triggers for asthma and where possible reduce this risk. The school has a definitive no-smoking policy. As far as possible, the school does not use chemicals in science and art lessons that are potential triggers for pupils with asthma. Pupils with asthma are encouraged to leave the room if particular fumes trigger their asthma.

Making the School Asthma Friendly

Where possible, all teaching and support staff will be asthma aware. Pupils who are having difficulties with their asthma control in school can see the school nurse for help and support and parents can speak to the school nurse if they have any particular concerns with their child's asthma. Parents are also encouraged to talk to their GP or asthma nurse if control is difficult or they have any concerns. Parents are also encouraged to talk to school if they have any particular concerns which they feel the school needs to be made aware of.

When a Pupil is Falling Behind in Lessons

If a pupil is missing a lot of time at school or has difficulties with their asthma control, the class teacher will initially talk to the parents/carers to work out how to prevent their child falling behind. If appropriate the teacher may also speak to the school nurse/Inclusion welfare officer for further support and advice. Southdown Primary School recognises that it is possible for pupils with asthma to have special education needs due to their condition and will attempt to address those needs if they were to arise.

Asthma Attacks

All staff who come into contact with pupils will be offered annual asthma training by the school nurse. This training will also include emergency management of an asthmatic attack. All first aiders within school will know what to do in the event of an asthma attack and will attend an annual asthma update. In the event of an asthma attack, the school follows the procedure outlined in the Welsh Government's 'Guidance on the use of emergency salbutamol inhalers in schools in Wales'. This procedure is visibly displayed in the staff room and in several locations around the school.

Roles and responsibilities:

Headteacher

- Be responsible for overall implementation of the asthma policy.
- Communicate, maintain and monitor policy.
- Assess staff training and arrange for those not met.
- Delegate responsibility for cleaning devices, checking expiry dates (once per term) as per recommendations.

School staff

- Understand policy.
- Identify if they have their own training needs are not met.
- Allow access to reliever medication.
- Report concerns.
- Ensure pupils have their inhalers on school trips and pre-exercise if needed.

School Governors

- Approve policy.
- Monitor and report on effectiveness.

School Nurse

- Liaise with school staff and offer advice for any problems identified.
- Promote positive asthma message.
- Provide annual asthma update and provide individual training of need is highlighted.

Pupils

- Treat everyone with respect.
- Pupils should be encouraged to tell an adult if they have concerns about another pupil.

Parents

- Inform school if their child has asthma, medication is needed or medication changes.
- Complete and return Asthma card and update annually or more often if required.
- Ensure inhaler is brought into school, is correctly labelled with child's name and date of birth.
- Parents will seek advice if they have concerns about their children's asthma (from GP/Consultant, asthma nurse or school nurse).

Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing Impact Statement

Southdown Primary School is committed to the protection and promotion of positive mental health and emotional wellbeing of our whole school community; pupils, staff, parents and carers. We recognise how important mental health and emotional well-being is to our lives in just the same way as physical health. This Policy has been written and reviewed in line with our school's vision and Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing Policy.

Equality Impact Assessment

Under the Equality Act 2010 we have a duty not to discriminate against people on the basis of their age, disability, gender, gender identity, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief and sexual orientation. This policy has been quality impact assessed and we believe that it is in line with the Equality Act 2010 as it is fair, it does not prioritise or disadvantage any pupil and it helps to promote equality at Southdown Primary School.

Appendix A

CONSENT FORM: USE OF EMERGENCY SALBUTAMOL INHALER **AT SOUTHDOWN SCHOOL**

(Please leave blank if your child does not have asthma)

Pupil Name:	
Class:	

1. I confirm my child has been diagnosed with asthma / has been prescribed an inhaler (please delete as appropriate).
2. I understand it is my responsibility to provide the Asthma medication my child needs whilst in the care of school.
3. My child will have a working, in-date inhaler, clearly labelled with their name, which they will bring with them to school every day.
4. In the event of my child displaying symptoms of asthma, and if their inhaler is not available or unusable, I consent for my child to receive salbutamol from an emergency inhaler held by the school for such emergencies.

You may wish to discuss this form with your child.

Signed:		Date:	
Parent/Carer full name (PRINT)			
Mobile/Home telephone			
Work telephone			
Parent/Carer address			
Email Address			
Pupil's Doctor's name			
Doctor's telephone number			
Doctor's address			

Appendix B

USE OF EMERGENCY SALBUTAMOL INHALER AT SOUTHDOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL

Pupil Name:	
Class:	
Date:	

Dear

This letter is to notify you that _____ has had problems with their breathing today.
This happened when _____

[Please delete as appropriate]

A member of staff helped them to use their own asthma inhaler.

OR

They did not have their own asthma inhaler with them, so a member of staff helped them to use the school's emergency asthma inhaler containing salbutamol. They were given puffs.

OR

Their own asthma inhaler was not working, so a member of staff helped them to use the school's emergency asthma inhaler containing salbutamol. They were givenpuffs. Please contact your doctor urgently to supply an inhaler for your child to use in school.

We strongly advise that you pass this information on to your doctor as soon as possible to see whether your child needs further medical assessment.

Yours sincerely,