



Asthma Policy

Headteacher	Mrs M.Norris	Date: September 2026
Chair of Governors	Mrs L.Glasper	Date: September 2026
To be reviewed:	September 2027	

1. Policy Statement

Stanley Crook Primary School recognises that asthma is a serious but usually controllable medical condition which affects many children and young people. The school welcomes all pupils with asthma and is committed to ensuring that they can participate fully in all aspects of school life, including lessons, educational visits, residential experiences, physical education, enrichment activities and extracurricular clubs. This approach reflects the principles contained within the school's Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy 2026 and Allergy Safety Policy 2026.

Stanley Crook Primary School will adopt a whole-school approach to asthma management, working in partnership with pupils, parents, healthcare professionals and school staff to ensure that asthma is effectively managed and that pupils remain safe, healthy, included and able to achieve their full potential.

2. Aims

This policy aims to:

- Ensure pupils with asthma are safe and supported whilst at school.
 - Enable pupils with asthma to participate fully in school life.
 - Promote asthma awareness across the school community.
 - Clarify responsibilities for staff, governors, parents, pupils and healthcare professionals.
 - Establish effective procedures for asthma emergencies.
 - Ensure compliance with Department for Education guidance on supporting pupils with medical conditions and emergency salbutamol inhalers in schools.
 - Align asthma management arrangements with the school's wider medical conditions and allergy safety procedures.
-

3. Legislation and Guidance

This policy has been developed with regard to:

- Children and Families Act 2014
- Supporting Pupils at School with Medical Conditions (DfE)
- Keeping Children Safe in Education
- Equality Act 2010
- Health and Safety at Work Act 1974
- SEND Code of Practice
- Emergency Salbutamol Inhalers in Schools Guidance

- BEAT Asthma Schools Programme guidance.

The school will have regard to all relevant statutory guidance and will make every reasonable effort to comply.

4. Understanding Asthma

Asthma affects the airways that carry air in and out of the lungs. When a person with asthma comes into contact with a trigger, the airways can become inflamed, swollen and narrowed, making breathing difficult. Common symptoms include:

- Persistent cough
- Wheezing
- Shortness of breath
- Chest tightness
- Fatigue
- Reduced participation in physical activity
- Tummy discomfort in younger children.

Many children with asthma manage their condition successfully when treatment plans are followed consistently.

5. Roles and Responsibilities

Governing Body

The Governing Body will:

- Ensure arrangements are in place to support pupils with asthma.
- Ensure this policy is implemented and reviewed annually.
- Monitor asthma-related incidents and outcomes.
- Ensure sufficient resources are available to support pupils safely.
- Ensure compliance with statutory duties relating to medical conditions.

Headteacher

The Headteacher will:

- Implement and monitor this policy.
- Appoint a member of staff to act as Asthma Lead.

- Ensure staff training is provided.
- Ensure asthma information is shared appropriately.
- Ensure emergency salbutamol inhalers are maintained.
- Ensure Individual Healthcare Plans (IHPs) are established where required.

Asthma Lead

The Asthma Lead will:

- Maintain the asthma register.
- Coordinate reviews of IHPs.
- Monitor medication expiry dates.
- Liaise with parents and healthcare professionals.
- Coordinate staff training.
- Investigate asthma-related incidents and near misses.
- Promote asthma awareness across the school community.

Staff

All staff will:

- Familiarise themselves with this policy.
- Be aware of pupils with asthma.
- Know emergency procedures.
- Permit immediate access to inhalers.
- Record inhaler use where support is provided.
- Participate in training.
- Respond appropriately during asthma emergencies.

Parents and Carers

Parents and carers will:

- Inform the school of any asthma diagnosis.
- Provide up-to-date inhalers, spacers and medical information.
- Inform school immediately of any changes to treatment.
- Participate in the development and review of IHPs.
- Ensure medication supplied is clearly labelled and in date.

Pupils

Pupils should:

- Understand their asthma condition where age appropriate.
- Inform an adult immediately if symptoms worsen.

- Carry and use inhalers responsibly when authorised.
 - Follow agreed healthcare arrangements.
-

6. Asthma Register

The school will maintain a current asthma register as part of the wider medical conditions register. The register will include:

- Pupil name
- Date of birth
- Class
- Asthma diagnosis
- Details of medication
- Location of inhalers and spacers
- Whether the pupil self-carries medication
- Details of any Individual Healthcare Plan
- Emergency contact information.

The register will be reviewed at least termly and updated whenever information changes.

7. Individual Healthcare Plans (IHPs)

An IHP will be considered where:

- Asthma significantly impacts a pupil's school life.
- A pupil experiences severe or poorly controlled asthma.
- Additional arrangements are required beyond normal asthma management.

IHPs will:

- Be developed collaboratively with parents and healthcare professionals.
 - Be reviewed annually or sooner if circumstances change.
 - Include medication arrangements.
 - Identify triggers.
 - Detail emergency procedures.
 - Include educational visit arrangements.
 - Identify any safeguarding considerations.
-

8. Asthma Medication

Pupil Medication

Pupils with asthma should have immediate access to their reliever inhaler at all times.

The school will:

- Never prevent access to inhalers.
- Encourage responsible self-management where appropriate.
- Ensure inhalers are clearly labelled.
- Ensure inhalers are stored accessibly and safely.
- Record use where staff assistance is provided.

Parents must provide:

- A clearly labelled, in-date inhaler.
- A spacer if prescribed.
- Written instructions where required.

9. Emergency Salbutamol Inhalers

Stanley Crook Primary School maintains emergency salbutamol inhalers in accordance with current Department for Education guidance.

Emergency salbutamol inhalers may only be used for pupils who:

- Have diagnosed asthma; or
- Have been prescribed a salbutamol inhaler; and
- Have parental consent for emergency inhaler use.

Current school locations are:

- First aid box outside Team Cherry.
- Red emergency grab bag located beside the defibrillator outside the school hall.

Emergency inhalers and spacers will:

- Be checked at least half-termly.
- Be clearly labelled.
- Be stored so they can be accessed quickly.
- Have expiry dates monitored.

10. Recognising an Asthma Attack

Staff should be aware of:

- Rapid breathing
- Breathlessness
- Wheezing
- Persistent cough
- Difficulty speaking
- Chest tightness
- Increased use of reliever inhaler
- Unusual fatigue or reduced participation.

11. Responding to an Asthma Attack

If a pupil experiences asthma symptoms:

1. Remain calm and reassure the pupil.
2. Sit the pupil upright.
3. Encourage slow breathing.
4. Help the pupil access their reliever inhaler immediately.
5. Follow the pupil's asthma action plan or IHP.
6. Seek assistance from trained staff.

Call 999 immediately if:

- Symptoms do not improve.
- The child becomes exhausted.
- The child is unable to speak normally.
- The child appears distressed by breathing difficulties.
- Staff are concerned about deterioration.

Parents will be informed as soon as possible after any significant asthma incident.

12. School Environment and Asthma Triggers

The school will take reasonable steps to minimise asthma triggers where possible.

Potential triggers include:

- Dust and poor ventilation
- Damp and mould
- Grass pollen
- High pollen counts
- Aerosol sprays
- Strong fragrances
- Art and science fumes
- Cold weather
- Thunderstorms
- Exercise without appropriate precautions.

No smoking or vaping is permitted anywhere on the school site.

13. Physical Activity and Sport

The school believes pupils with asthma should participate fully in PE, sport and active play.

Staff will:

- Encourage participation.
- Ensure inhalers are readily accessible.
- Be aware of pupils who may require inhaler use before exercise.
- Consider environmental conditions such as high pollen counts or extreme weather.

No pupil will be excluded from physical activity solely because of asthma unless specifically advised by a healthcare professional.

14. Educational Visits and Residential Visits

Pupils with asthma will be encouraged and supported to attend trips and residential visits.

Visit leaders will ensure:

- Inhalers accompany the pupil.
 - Relevant staff are informed.
 - Copies of IHPs are available.
 - Emergency inhalers are considered as part of visit risk assessments.
 - Appropriate supervision arrangements are in place.
-

15. Staff Training

All staff will receive regular asthma awareness training.

Training will include:

- Understanding asthma.
- Recognising symptoms.
- Managing asthma attacks.
- Use of inhalers and spacers.
- Use of emergency salbutamol inhalers.
- School emergency procedures.

New staff, agency staff and long-term supply staff will receive appropriate induction information.

16. Attendance and Wellbeing

The school recognises that poorly controlled asthma can negatively affect wellbeing, attendance and educational outcomes.

Where concerns arise regarding:

- Frequent absences
- Increased inhaler use
- Reduced participation
- Repeated asthma symptoms

the school will work alongside parents and healthcare professionals to review support arrangements.

17. Serious Incidents and Near Misses

Asthma incidents and near misses will be recorded and reviewed.

Following an incident the school will consider:

- What happened
- Whether procedures were followed
- Any required training
- Whether the pupil's IHP requires amendment
- Any lessons learned.

The school adopts a learning-focused, no-blame approach to incident review.

18. Safeguarding

Supporting pupils with asthma forms part of the school's wider safeguarding responsibilities.

Any safeguarding concerns identified whilst supporting a pupil with asthma will be reported immediately to the Designated Safeguarding Lead and managed in accordance with the school's safeguarding procedures.

19. Monitoring and Review

This policy will be reviewed:

- Annually.
- Following a serious asthma incident.
- Following significant changes in guidance or legislation.

Responsibility for monitoring rests with the Headteacher, Asthma Lead and Governing Body.

20. Links with Other Policies

This policy should be read alongside:

- Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy
- Allergy Safety Policy

- Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
 - First Aid Policy
 - Health and Safety Policy
 - SEND Policy
 - Accessibility Plan
 - Educational Visits Policy
 - Attendance Policy
 - Behaviour Policy
 - Data Protection Policy.
-

Appendices

The following documents should be attached to the policy:

1. School Asthma Registration Form.
2. Emergency Salbutamol Inhaler Consent Form.
3. Personal Asthma Action Plan (PAAP).
4. School Asthma Care Plan.
5. Asthma Attack Flowchart.
6. Emergency Inhaler Usage Record.