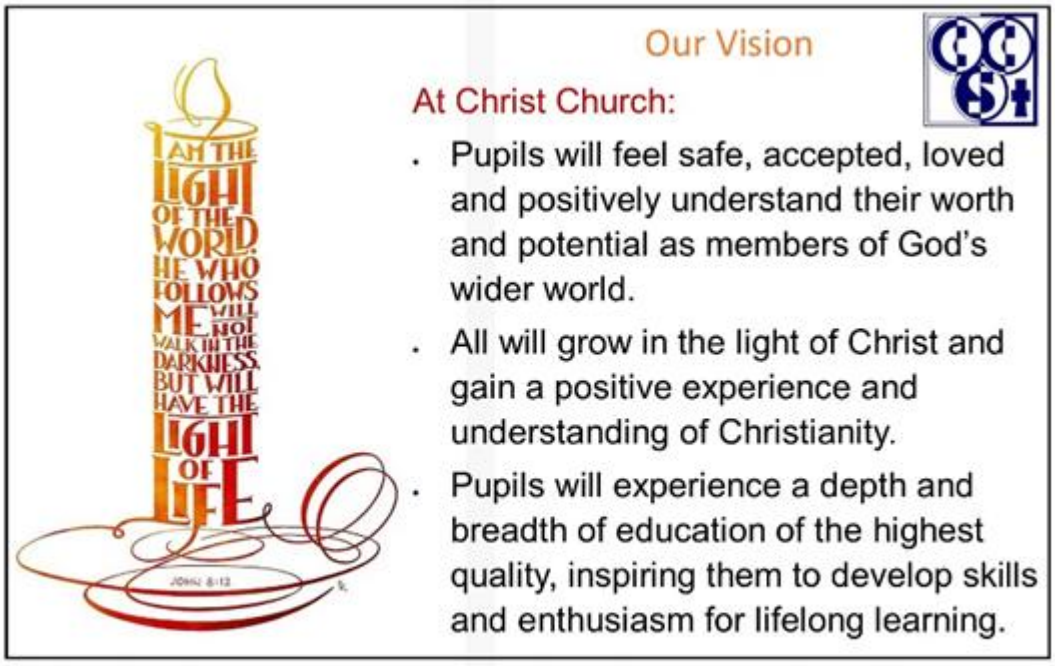
Christ Church
Church of England
Primary School

Asthma Policy

Date: Sept 2026



Asthma Policy

Approved by: Governing Body
Date Adopted: September 2026
Review Date: September 2027
Asthma Lead(s): Mr Andrew Peers (Headteacher) / Mrs Sarah Robinson

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1. Statement of Intent

Christ Church CE Primary School is committed to ensuring that all pupils with asthma are fully supported so that they can participate safely and successfully in all aspects of school life.

The school recognises that asthma is a common, serious and potentially life-threatening medical condition. With appropriate management and support, pupils with asthma should be able to attend school regularly, achieve their academic potential and take part in physical activities, educational visits and extracurricular opportunities alongside their peers. [gov.uk], [assets.pub...ice.gov.uk]

No pupil will be denied access to education, school activities or opportunities because of their asthma. [gov.uk]

2. Legal Framework

This policy has been developed in accordance with:

- Children and Families Act 2014, Section 100.
- Equality Act 2010.
- DfE statutory guidance: *Supporting Pupils at School with Medical Conditions*.
- Department of Health guidance: *Emergency Asthma Inhalers for Use in Schools*. [gov.uk], [assets.pub...ice.gov.uk]

3. Roles and Responsibilities

The Governing Body

The Governing Body will:

- Ensure appropriate arrangements are in place to support pupils with medical conditions.
- Ensure this policy is implemented and reviewed.
- Ensure sufficient staff receive training appropriate to their role. [gov.uk], [assets.pub...ice.gov.uk]

The Headteacher

The Headteacher will:

- Ensure that this policy is effectively implemented.
- Ensure staff understand their responsibilities.
- Ensure appropriate records are maintained.
- Ensure emergency procedures are followed when required.

Asthma Lead

The Asthma Lead will:

- Maintain the school's Asthma Register.
- Oversee staff training.
- Monitor emergency inhaler arrangements.
- Undertake medication and expiry date checks.

- Liaise with parents and healthcare professionals where required.

School Staff

School staff will:

- Be aware of pupils with asthma.
- Know how to recognise an asthma attack.
- Support pupils in accessing medication immediately when needed.
- Follow the school's emergency procedures.
- Record and report any asthma incidents.

Parents and Carers

Parents and carers are responsible for:

- Informing the school promptly of any asthma diagnosis.
- Providing prescribed inhalers and spacers.
- Providing written medical information and consent forms.
- Providing updated healthcare information and action plans.
- Ensuring medication is in date and clearly labelled.

Pupils

Pupils are encouraged, where age appropriate, to:

- Carry and manage their own inhalers safely.
- Inform an adult immediately if symptoms occur.
- Follow advice from healthcare professionals.

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4. Asthma Register

The school will maintain an up-to-date Asthma Register containing:

- Pupil name.
- Date of birth.
- Emergency contacts.
- Details of prescribed medication.
- Consent for emergency inhaler use.
- Relevant healthcare information.

The register will be updated whenever new information is received and reviewed at least annually.

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5. Individual Healthcare Plans

Where a pupil's asthma requires additional support, the school will develop an Individual Healthcare Plan (IHP) in partnership with parents, healthcare professionals and the pupil where appropriate. [gov.uk], [assets.pub...ice.gov.uk]

The plan may include:

- Known triggers.
- Symptoms and warning signs.
- Medication requirements.
- Emergency procedures.
- Educational visit arrangements.
- Responsibilities of staff and parents.

The school will also encourage parents to provide a Personalised Asthma Action Plan from the child's healthcare professional.

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6. Medication and Access to Inhalers

All pupils with asthma must have immediate access to their reliever inhaler at all times.

Self-Carry Arrangements

Where parents and the school agree that a child is capable of managing their medication safely, pupils may carry their inhaler themselves.

Classroom Storage

For younger pupils, inhalers will be stored:

- In an unlocked location.
- Clearly labelled.
- Easily accessible within the classroom.

Asthma medication will never be locked away or stored where access may be delayed.

Parents are responsible for supplying in-date medication.

The Asthma Lead will undertake formal checks of school-held medication at least termly.

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7. Emergency Salbutamol Inhaler

The school maintains an emergency salbutamol inhaler in accordance with government guidance. [gov.uk], [assets.pub...ice.gov.uk]

Location

Emergency inhalers are stored in:

- KS1 First Aid Room
- KS2 Staff Room

Contents

Each kit contains:

- Salbutamol inhaler.
- Compatible spacers.
- Instructions for use.
- Asthma attack flowchart.
- List of eligible pupils.

Use

The emergency inhaler may only be used for pupils:

- Diagnosed with asthma;
- Prescribed a reliever inhaler; and
- Whose parents have provided written consent.

Following Use

Parents will be informed as soon as possible.

A written record will be made detailing:

- Pupil name.
- Date and time.
- Symptoms observed.
- Medication administered.
- Staff involved.
- Outcome and follow-up actions.

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8. Recognising an Asthma Attack

Staff should be alert to symptoms including:

- Persistent coughing.
- Wheezing.
- Shortness of breath.
- Difficulty speaking.
- Chest tightness.
- Increased distress or exhaustion.

A pupil experiencing any of these symptoms must receive immediate assistance.

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9. Emergency Procedure

Where a pupil is experiencing an asthma attack:

1. Remain calm and reassure the pupil.
2. Help the pupil sit upright.
3. Encourage slow, steady breathing.
4. Assist the pupil to take their prescribed reliever inhaler.
5. Use the pupil's spacer if available.
6. If the pupil's inhaler is unavailable or ineffective and parental consent exists, use the school emergency inhaler.
7. Continue monitoring the pupil closely.

Call 999 Immediately If:

- Symptoms are not improving after inhaler use.
- The pupil appears exhausted.
- The pupil is too breathless to talk or eat.

- The pupil's condition deteriorates rapidly.
- There is any doubt about the seriousness of the attack.

A pupil having an asthma attack must never be left unattended.

Parents will be informed immediately following any significant asthma incident.

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10. Physical Education and Sporting Activities

The school believes that participation in PE and physical activity is important for children with asthma.

Staff will ensure:

- Pupils have easy access to inhalers during PE.
- Appropriate warm-up activities are undertaken.
- Pupils are encouraged but not forced to continue if symptoms develop.
- Medication accompanies sports events and competitions.

No pupil will be excluded solely because they have asthma.

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11. Educational Visits and Residential Activities

Staff organising visits will:

- Check medical information before departure.
- Ensure access to inhalers throughout the visit.
- Take emergency asthma medication where appropriate.
- Ensure supervising staff are aware of pupils with asthma.

Risk assessments will take account of medical needs where necessary.

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12. Staff Training

The school will provide asthma awareness training:

- During induction for new staff.
- At least annually for relevant staff.
- Following significant changes to guidance or procedures.

Training will include:

- Recognising symptoms of asthma.
- Emergency procedures.
- Use of inhalers and spacers.
- Emergency inhaler arrangements.

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13. Information Sharing

Relevant information regarding pupils with asthma will be shared on a need-to-know basis with:

- Class teachers.
- Teaching assistants.
- Midday supervisors.
- Educational visit leaders.
- First aid staff.
- Relevant temporary staff where appropriate.

Information will be handled in accordance with data protection legislation.

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14. Record Keeping

The school will maintain records relating to:

- Asthma diagnoses.
- Healthcare plans.
- Consent forms.
- Medication administration.
- Emergency inhaler usage.
- Training records.

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15. Complaints

Concerns regarding support for pupils with asthma should initially be raised with the Headteacher.

Where concerns cannot be resolved, parents may use the school's formal complaints procedure.

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16. Monitoring and Review

This policy will be reviewed annually.

It will also be reviewed following:

- Significant asthma-related incidents.
- Changes to legislation.
- Updated DfE or Department of Health guidance.
- Recommendations arising from school audits or inspections.

Signed (Headteacher): Mr A. Peers

Date: September 2026

Signed (Chair of Governors): Mr D. Foster

Date: September 2026



What to do if a child has an asthma attack

Actions to take if a child has an asthma attack and when to call 999.

1. **Help them to sit up – don't let them lie down. Try to keep them calm.**
2. **Help them take 1 puff of their reliever inhaler (with their spacer, if they have it) every 30 to 60 seconds, up to a total of 10 puffs.**
3. **If they don't have their reliever inhaler, or it's not helping, or if you are worried at any time, call 999 for an ambulance.**
4. **If the ambulance has not arrived after 10 minutes and their symptoms are not improving, repeat step 2.**
5. **If their symptoms are no better after repeating step 2, and the ambulance has still not arrived, contact 999 again immediately.**

Important: This asthma attack advice does not apply to MART or AIR inhalers. If a child has a MART or AIR inhaler, please tell the responder when you call 999.

An asthma action plan is a written plan with all the information you need about your child's asthma in one place.
Scan the QR code to get yours.

ASTHMA+ LUNG UK

AsthmaAndLung.org.uk