



## **Fierté Multi Academy Trust**

### **Policy on Asthma**

**2018-2019**

This guidance document applies to all pupils, staff & visitors to the Fierté Trust academies, and has been written with advice from the LA, Asthma UK, & the DFE.

#### **Introduction**

The Fierté Multi Academy Trust recognises that asthma is a serious but controllable medical condition affecting numerous individuals within the school environment and is able to offer assurance that all individuals with this condition are welcomed.

The Fierté Multi Academy Trust encourages pupils to achieve their potential in all aspects of school life by having a clear policy which is understood by school staff, their employers & pupils. All staff also need to be familiar with Asthma UK's awareness for school staff document, from its school Asthma pack located in the medical room. New & supply staff should also be familiar with these policies.

All First Aiders (as listed in each academy within the Trust) are provided with training on asthma & administering medication by Derwent Training Consultants Ltd and is updated every 3 years.

School staff have no legal obligation to administer inhalers to pupils (except in an emergency) unless they have been specifically contracted to do so. It is generally accepted and stated in LA policies that all staff are acting voluntarily. However any staff administering medication are insured by the LA when acting in agreement with this policy and any other medication guidelines issued by the school. A list of current first aiders can be found in the medical room.

## **Asthma medicines.**

- All authorised staff will let pupils take their medication when required and help to administer where necessary.
- Immediate access to inhalers is essential, and trained staff & pupils with the condition are aware of this location (in an unlocked cupboard in the medical room.)
- Parents/Carers are asked to provide a labelled spare inhaler which will be kept in the medical room, in the event that the pupil's inhaler runs out or is lost. All inhalers must be labelled with the child's name by the parent/carer and not the school.

## **Record keeping**

- Upon entry to the school, parents/carers are asked to complete details of any medical conditions, including asthma on enrolment forms. This is reviewed at the beginning of each school year.
- All parents/carers of children with asthma are given an Asthma UK school asthma card to be completed by their doctor or asthma nurse, together with an accompanying letter from the headteacher. This should then be returned to school and held on file and updated on the list of children with medical conditions or allergies. These cards should then be sent to parents/carers on an annual basis to update. They should also update or change the card for a new one if the medication or dosage changes during the year.
- A named staff member is responsible for checking the expiry date of inhalers, including any spares kept at school, every 6 months. These are kept in a cabinet, labelled in each medical room.

## **Exercise and activity**

- Taking part in PE and any additional after school activities is an essential part of school life for all pupils. All class teachers, support assistants and visiting instructors should be aware of pupils who are asthmatic and be familiar with the list of children with medical conditions.
- Pupils with asthma are encouraged to participate in lessons. Teachers will remind pupils whose asthma is triggered by exercise to take their inhaler before the lesson. If a pupil needs

to use their inhaler during the lesson they will be encouraged to do so.

- Any other staff will follow the same principles as above for games and activities that involve physical activity.

#### Making the school asthma friendly

- The school does all that it can to ensure that the school environment is safe for pupils with asthma.

#### Effects on learning

- The school recognises that pupils with asthma may have some special educational needs as a result of their asthma.
- If a pupil is missing school or overtired at school initially the class teacher will discuss their concerns with the parent/carer. If appropriate the teacher will then discuss the pupil's needs with the SENDCO.