



Milborne Ladybirds Playgroup

ASTHMA POLICY

The Preschool aims to include children with asthma in all areas of the group's activities but always have a regard to guidelines produced by the National Asthma Campaign.

If an asthmatic child becomes breathless and wheezy or coughs continually the following action is recommended:

- Remain calm.
- Let child sit down in the position they find most comfortable. Do not make them lie down.
- Let the child take their usual treatment. If the child has forgotten their inhaler and you do not have prior permission to use another inhaler:
 1. Call parents.
 2. Failing that, call family doctor.
 3. Check the attack is not severe (see below).
- Wait 5 to 10 minutes.
- If the symptoms disappear, the child can go back to their previous activity.
- If the symptoms have improved but not completely disappeared, call the parents and give another dose of the inhaler while waiting for them.
- If normal medication has had no effect, see severe asthma attack below.

Severe Asthma Attack

Any of the following signs mean a severe attack:

- Normal relief medication does not work at all.
- The child is breathless enough to have difficulty in talking normally.
- The pulse rate is 120 per minute or more.
- Rapid breathing of 130 breaths per minute or more.
- **Call ambulance** (they will have oxygen on board).
- Get someone to inform parents.



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- If child has an emergency supply of oral steroids give them the stated dose **NOW**.
- Keep trying with the usual inhaler every 5 to 10 minutes and don't worry about possible overdosing

Registration

- When parents complete the registration form for their child they must be asked whether he/she is asthmatic or wheezy and to keep the Preschool informed should these conditions arise in future.
- Details of treatment must be stated together with clear guidance on usage.

Inhalers

- Any inhalers brought into Playgroup must be kept in the First Aid cupboard but not locked away as easy access is essential.
- Inhalers must be taken on outings.
- All inhalers should be clearly identified with the name of the child.

Sports

- All asthmatic children must be closely observed for signs of wheezing, coughing or other signs of asthma. If specified by the parent, a dose of the inhaler should be given before commencing sports activities.

Reviewing the Policy

The Asthma Policy will be kept under review and will be reviewed annually
This policy was reviewed and agreed at a meeting of the Management Committee held on 22 February 2012

Signed Chairperson