



# Heronswood Pre-School & Wraparound

## Asthma Policy

### Statement of Intent

Heronswood Pre-School believes that the health and well-being of children is of paramount importance.

### Aim

We aim to ensure that children and adults with asthma are able to participate fully in all aspects of Pre-School.

### Method

At Pre-School we:

- Welcome all those with asthma.
- Will encourage and help children and adults with asthma to participate fully in all aspects of Pre-school.
- Recognise that asthma is an important condition affecting many children and adults.
- Ensure that the environment is a non-smoking one.
- Will ensure that other children will understand asthma so that they can support others.
- Have a clear understanding of what to do in the event of a child, or adult, having an asthma attack.
- Will record inhaler dosages in the Administration of Medication book.
- Will record parental consent in the Administration of Medication Book
- That two members of staff will sign the book after each dosage is given.
- Store inhalers in a basket on a shelf in the cupboard, for an adult to administer and control. We consider Pre-School children too young to administer inhalers themselves.

In the event of an asthma attack we will:

- Be aware that attacks can be frightening, and that children may not have been through one before.
- Stay calm and reassure the child.
- Listen carefully to what the child is saying.
- Not put arms around the child's shoulder as this can be restrictive.
- Encourage the child to breathe slowly and deeply.
- Encourage the child to sit upright and lean slightly forward. (Lying flat on the back is not recommended.)
- Loosen tight clothing around the neck.
- Offer the child a drink of water.
- Call an ambulance if signs of distress continue after medication is administered.

As soon as the child feels better after an attack, they can return to Pre-School activities. We will always ring parents/carers to report the asthma attack, in case they wish to collect the child early.

**Parents should note that Heronswood Pre-School & Wraparound will not have access to inhalers kept in classrooms. Spare Ventolin inhalers are kept in the school's first aid cupboard in case of emergency for a child known to have asthma and will be used if required.**

**Policy written – February 2017**

**By Pat Croom – Pre-School Manager**

**Ratified by Governors – May 2017**

**Policy to be reviewed – February 2019**