

# THE VENERABLE BEDE CHURCH OF ENGLAND SECONDARY SCHOOL



## ASTHMA POLICY

(Reviewed September 2012)

## **Introduction**

The Venerable Bede Church of England (Aided) Secondary School welcomes all students with asthma.

We aim to ensure that all members of the school community suffering from asthma are encouraged to participate in all aspects of school life, including PE.

## **Procedures**

Asthma sufferers must carry inhalers with them at all times.

Records will be kept of those students with asthma and any medication taken.

Staff must check that all asthma sufferers have their inhalers with them on all off site visits/trips and activities.

A list of those students with asthmatic conditions will be available to all staff at the start of each academic year.

The school has designated first aid staff who are trained to recognise the signs and symptoms of an asthma attack and have a clear understanding of what to do.

## **What to do if a student has an asthma attack**

### **Signs and symptoms:**

Difficulty with breathing out

Wheezing

Speaking with difficulty

Distress and anxiety

Blueness of skin

### **Treatment and action:**

Stay calm and reassure the student

Call for a qualified first aider via Reception (Ext 1300)

Listen carefully to what the student is saying – they will probably have experienced this before – but do not put your arm around the student's shoulder as this is very restrictive.

Encourage the student to breathe slowly and deeply. Most sufferers find it easier to sit upright or lean forward resting on a table. Lying flat on the back is not recommended.

## **After the attack**

Minor attacks should not interrupt a student's involvement in school. As soon as they feel better they can return to school activities.

Parents/carers will be informed if an attack has occurred.