# Standard School Emergency Kit Acquisition for BSW

The “[Guidance on the use of emergency inhalers in schools](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/416468/emergency_inhalers_in_schools.pdf)” legislation from the Department of Health allows schools to purchase inhalers and spacers to be used in emergency situations via your local pharmacy without a prescription.

The number of kits required depends on the size of the school. A minimum of 3 kits is recommended with some larger secondary schools likely to require more. One of these kits should be available to take on school trips. The locations of the emergency kits should be stated within the school asthma policy and as per the manufacturer’s instructions, will need to be kept in a cool, dry place out of direct sunlight.

It is the responsibility of the asthma champion to ensure the kit is maintained and within dates. A record of when the kit is checked with dates and signatures should be kept. New spacer devices need “priming” by spraying the inhaler into the spacer device. If, as hoped, inhalers and spacers aren’t used for long periods then “priming” should be repeated. There is no definitive timescale but monthly if not used seems reasonable. The salbutamol metered dose inhalers do not contain a dose counter and so including the priming sprays in the emergency inhaler administration record will ensure you can monitor more accurately when inhalers are due to run out.

The following page contains a template for headteachers to request emergency kits which can be adapted based on the schools’ requirements. There is a cost which varies between pharmacies, and it is not the pharmacies responsibility to provide these kits for free. Some schools may consider using charitably raised funds for this purpose.

 School Headed Paper

 (School details here)

 Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Dear Local Pharmacy Team,

Our school is committed to improving the care of children and young people with asthma. We are part of the Bath and North-East Somerset, Swindon & Wiltshire Asthma Friendly Schools initiative and would like to order asthma emergency kits to have available for emergency use as per the 2014 legislation from the Department of Health.

School Details:

Name of School: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

We are aware that there is a cost associated with this and would like to order the following:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Item | Quantity | Cost | Total Cost |
| Salbutamol Metered Dose Inhaler (MDI) |  |  |  |
| Yellow Aerochamber spacer (under 5’s) |  |  |  |
| Blue Aerochamber spacer (5 & over) |  |  |  |
| Volumatic spacer with mask (under 5’s) |  |  |  |
| Volumatic spacer without mask (5 & over) |  |  |  |

We have guidance on how to use the most common devices listed above from Asthma + Lung UK but if there are any changes or developments, we would be grateful if you could provide updated advice on how to use and clean them.

We are aware that once the inhaler has expired or finished, we will return the inhalers to you for safer, more environmentally friendly disposal. We are also aware that the spacer devices are for single patient use only and so will be giving them to the individuals when needed in an emergency and requesting families replace our stocks with a new spacer if possible.

Thanks for your support with this and if more information is required, please contact the CYP Asthma Lead for BSW, Dr Seb Gray (Sebastian.Gray@nhs.net).

Yours sincerely,

School Head Teacher: Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Name (Printed): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_