

Lessons in Asthma

(improving the management of respiratory conditions in a primary school setting)

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• Background

Respiratory conditions in children represent a burden for the child, the family and the healthcare system.

Repeated reports and audits recommend changes and improvements to how we manage these conditions.

• Aim

Improve the management of respiratory conditions in primary school children

• Project Approach

To achieve our aim, we radically changed our approach to the problem.

We reviewed the patients in the child-friendly school environment.

We had full read/write access to the surgery records so could conduct a full respiratory review.

Having more time allowed us to educate and empower the patient and their parents.

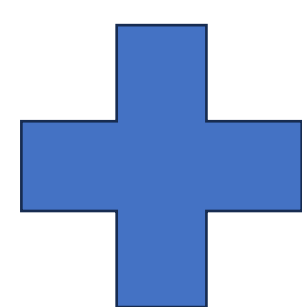
We concentrated on the high value interventions highlighted in repeated reports and audits.

We prescribed in line with the All Wales guidelines.

Everyone was issued with a worsening symptom management plan.

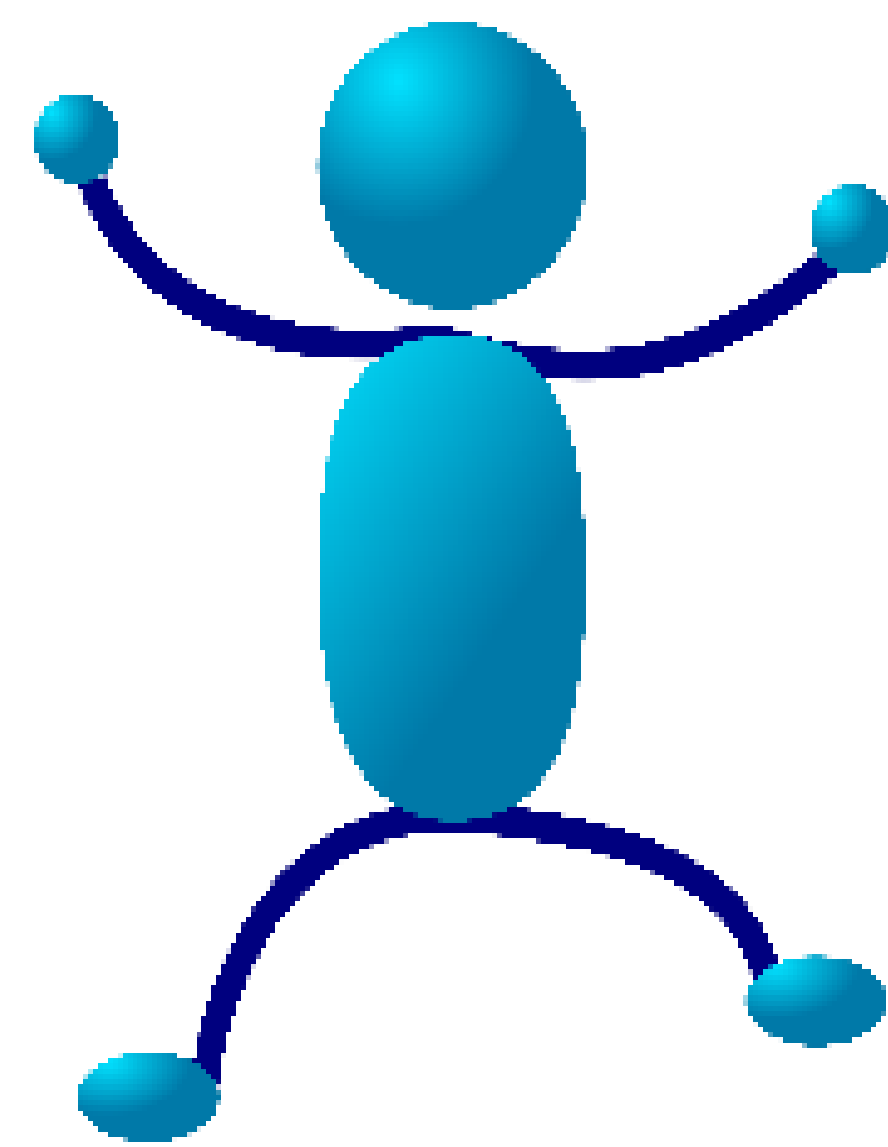
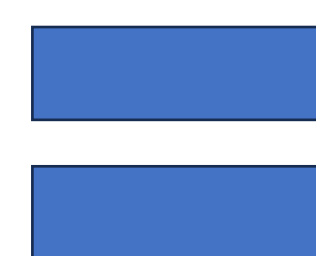
We liaised closely with both primary and secondary care.

We will see pupils from all 52 primary schools in Pembrokeshire



The Basics

1. Review
2. Diagnosis
3. Education
4. Inhaler technique
5. PAAP



End of year report 2024

Subject	C-ACT	Knowledge	Action & Use	Inhaler tech	PAAP
NRAD report 2014	Poorly controlled asthma	Poor perception of risk	Poor understanding of the 'how, when and why'	Inhaler technique not checked	Less than 25% issued
Grade	D	D	D	E	E
Lessons in asthma 2024	73% reported a clinically important improvement	Parent feedback showed increased confidence managing asthma	Parent feedback showed increased understanding of medication	Every child has inhaler that can and will use	Every child has a worsening symptom management plan
Grade	A	A	A	A	A

'absolutely fantastic'

'a fabulous service'

'by far the best review we have had'

'I believe many children are falling through a net'

'the change has been so great to see'

'he has recently found a new gear due to the new management of his asthma'

'a game changer for my grandson'

'your input may just have changed his life'

'my child's asthma is now under control'

'it has been wonderful to feel 'heard' and have someone to discuss things with'

• Project Impact

The findings at the initial consultation showed a general lack of understanding of the condition, poor preventer adherence and poor inhaler technique.

296 pupils seen in first year, after the second consultation

- over 70% of pupils reported a clinically important difference in their symptom control
- over 60% of patients had their treatment changed in line with the All Wales Guidelines,
- every pupil was given a written worsening symptom management plan. The school was also issued a copy of this plan
- 17 pupils were referred to secondary care.

• Key Conclusions

- The project addresses a need
- The target population engaged
- Positive quantitative and qualitative outcomes
- The project adds widespread value
- The project is scalable