

# Using a spacer device with a mask

- Very young children (EYFS pupils) may routinely use a facemask with their reliever inhaler. For such children, schools should ensure that they request a face mask and spacer from parents to be kept for use in school
- If such children are registered to use the emergency asthma inhaler kit, school should ensure a facemask for use with the spacer is kept in the emergency kit at all times.

## When administering routine treatment:

1. Encourage pupil to sit down and loosen clothing if needed
2. Shake the inhaler
3. Insert the inhaler into the end of the spacer and gently place the facemask over the child's mouth and nose, ensuring a good seal
4. Insert one actuation (puff)
5. Encourage pupil to take 4 to 5 breaths at a normal rate which will make the valve click on the large spacer and move on the smaller spacer
6. Wait 30 seconds then repeat from step 2 until dose completed.

## Follow the asthma attack procedure included in this kit

Wherever possible use the child's own spacer device and face-mask. The emergency kit spacer and face-mask are single use only so once used they can be given to that child. Ask the child's family to replace.



# Care of inhaler and spacer device

## Spacer

- When new, remove spacer from plastic bag and discard.
- Shake inhaler and insert into end of spacer.
- Spray 10 puffs, one after the other.
- Mark on Emergency salbutamol inhaler actuation (puff) record.
- Repeat above:
  - when spacer is replaced
  - at the beginning of every half term.

**NB facemasks need no preparation.**

## Inhaler

Clean the inhaler at the beginning of every half term. Medication build-up on the casing can block the spray

1. Take the canister out of the casing and remove the cap from the mouthpiece. Hold the casing under warm running water for about 30 seconds.
2. Turn the casing the other way up and run the mouthpiece under the water for 30 seconds.
3. Shake off as much water as you can then dry with a paper towel
4. Once dry, replace the canister correctly and the mouthpiece cap

# Using the spacer device

**When administering routine treatment:** (where child has forgotten own inhaler)

1. Encourage pupil to sit down and loosen clothing if needed
2. Shake the inhaler
3. Insert the inhaler into the end of the spacer, ensure the mouthpiece is inserted between teeth and closed lips
4. Insert one actuation (puff)
5. Encourage pupil to take 4 to 5 breaths at a normal rate which will make the valve click
6. Wait 30 seconds then repeat from step 2 until dose is completed.

**Wherever possible use the child's own spacer device. The emergency kit spacer is single use only so once used it can be given to that child or should be discarded.**

