

Sun Safety *Policy*



Together We Learn

...always striving to be outstanding, transforming the aspirations of a community.

October 2019

Introduction

We believe it is important to raise awareness of why our children need sun protection; this policy sets out how we do so, how we encourage pupils and Parents/Carers to change the way they behave in the sun and to enjoy the sun safely.

We work with staff, pupils and Parents/Carers to achieve this through the curriculum, personalised and differentiated planning, through regular parental communication and by requiring all pupils to wear clothing and sunscreen to maximize safety.

Curriculum

These measures are in place:

- All pupils will receive at least one lesson per year about the importance of sun protection.
- We will talk about how to be 'Sun Smart' in assemblies and PSHE lessons at the start of Term 5 and before the summer holidays.
- We will encourage all children to wear appropriate sun hats when outside and sunny. If children do not have a hat in school then we have spare hats for them to wear. Children will not be allowed outside unless they are wearing an appropriate hat.
- Parents are encouraged to supply their children with sunscreen and hats when the weather is hot.
- Sun hats are provided and can also be purchased from the school office and children and Parents are encouraged to purchase one as this hat also protects children's necks.
- Any trips which take place in Terms 5 and 6 have requests for Parents/Carers to provide sunscreen, a hat and plenty of water. Sun protection is considered in off-site visit risk assessments.
- Water is available to the children at all times and children are encouraged to drink regularly throughout the day to avoid dehydration. New school water bottles are available for purchase through the school office.
- Parents/Carers will be sent a letter explaining what the school is doing about sun protection and how they can help at the beginning of Term 4. This will explain that children are encouraged to bring sunscreen to the school with them, ensuring it has their name on and is put in their tray. Children will then be asked to apply their lotion throughout the day. Parents/Carers are also asked to ensure that their child has had sunscreen applied before coming to school.
- Teachers will attend a staff meeting at the end of Term 4 on how pupils and staff can be 'Sun Smart' and information on sun safety will be provided.
- A letter or section of our newsletter will remind Parents/Carers about our sun protection policy at the beginning of Term 5 each year.

Teaching and Learning

Teachers take into consideration the following things when planning lessons:

Shade

- When the sun is strong we will encourage pupils to learn/play in the shade where it is available; seats and equipment are moved to shady areas and the Outdoor Classroom will be used as the permanent canopies will provide shade.
- There are trees in the Playground area which will create shade, as will the building.
- During learning term if completing learning in the Outdoor Area, children will be asked to go inside if they have had too much sun. During lunch and break times, one classroom is made available for children who have had enough sun or who wish to be indoors.
- Organised activities make use of the shade available.

Clothing

Through regular reminders to Parents/Carers, teachers and children, we insist that:

- When outside in sunny weather, children are required to wear hats that cover the ears, face and neck.
- Pupils are encouraged to wear tops and dresses that cover their shoulders (as per our recommended school uniform).
- Our PE uniform consists of t-shirts and shorts for comfort and protection in the sun.
- Pupils are allowed to wear UV protective sunglasses, especially if they are hay fever sufferers.
- All teaching and non-teaching staff and are encouraged to wear hats when on playground duty and teaching outdoors on sunny days for their protection and to act as role models for the pupils.

Timetabling

- During Terms 5 and 6, we aim to schedule outside activities, school trips and PE lessons when the children will not be in direct sunshine. If this is unavoidable we will ensure hats, clothing and sunscreen are all worn to prevent sunburn.
- Children will be allowed and encouraged to take their water bottles outside and Playworkers encourage them to increase their water intake during lunchtime and break time.
- Children will also have water bottles fully available throughout their learning time.

Sunscreen

- Sunscreen use will be encouraged on days when the sun is strong during summer at lunch breaks, during PE lessons and on school trips. We encourage children to apply sunscreen generously and regularly.
- Extra sunscreen will be made available in case children forget their own; Parents/Carers will be sent a form asking them to opt out of their child being provided with extra sunscreen. If they opt out and their child does not have sunscreen in school with them then Parents/Carers will be contacted and asked to bring some to school for them.
- We advise Parents/Carers to choose a sunscreen with an SPF of at least 15 that is also labeled to protect from UVA and UVB rays and ensure that sunscreen is applied regularly and generously.
- Staff will apply sunscreen to a child's face, neck and arms if the child is not capable of doing it themselves, however we will always encourage a child to do this themselves in the first instance.

Communicating our Policy

All teachers and staff are made aware of this policy and the importance of sun protection within the school environment at staff and Unit Meetings.

This policy will be available to view on the school website, and will be highlighted to parents, carers and children throughout the summer term. All parents and carers receive our letter informing them of our Sun Protection Policy.

For pupils, this is done through assemblies, workshops, talks and PSHE lessons on Sun Smart.