

# **Sun Care Policy**

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## **I Rationale**

For the purposes of this policy, the term 'Academy' refers to primary, junior, secondary and alternative provision academies.

This policy represents the agreed principles for sun protection throughout the Academy and continues to reflect our commitment to promoting healthy environments for children.

We want our staff and children to enjoy the sun safely. We believe that sun safety is important to ensure that children and staff are protected from skin damage caused by the harmful ultraviolet rays in sunlight. As school hours fall within peak UV periods of the day, we will work with staff, children and parents/guardians to achieve this.

Sun exposure in the first 15 years of life contributes significantly to a person's lifetime risk of developing skin cancer, highlighting the importance of schools and parents working together to increase knowledge and influence behaviours, ensuring children are protected against UVR and learning how to enjoy the sun safely.

## **2 Implementing**

### **Education**

- Under the new PHSE (Health and Prevention) curriculum, primary schools must now teach pupils about safe and unsafe exposure to the sun, and how to reduce the risk of sun damage, including skin cancer.
- All children will learn about sun safety and protecting their skin through curriculum opportunities at least once a year (use of 'SunSmart' website resources).
- We will talk about how to be 'SunSmart' in assemblies at the start of the summer term every year.
- At the beginning of the summer term every year, parents/guardians will be reminded of the dangers of sun exposure and preventative measures, and reinforced of our Sun Safety Policy. Information will explain what the school is doing about sun protection and how parents/guardians can help.
- Staff will be reminded in April every year about the academy's Sun Safety Policy and the 'SunSmart' lessons that can be delivered. Information will be made available in the staff room.
- Children will be told about the importance of drinking more water when it is hot and will be encouraged to bring water to school and to make use of water coolers / drinks stations.
- We will regularly remind children, staff and parents/guardians about sun safety through newsletters and letters regarding educational visits and activities for children.
- Staff will be encouraged to praise children that adhere to sun protection guidelines.
- Staff will be encouraged to remind children of the need for sun protection during social times if they are ignoring guidelines.

### **Shading**

- Staff will encourage children to use shaded areas of the school and its grounds during breaks, lunch hours, sports days and on trips out.
- We will hold outdoor activities in areas of shade whenever possible.
- We will work towards increasing the provision of adequate shade for all children and staff.

## Clothing

- Children will wear t-shirts during PE or outdoor lessons to cover up their shoulders.
- We will encourage staff and parents/guardians to act as good role models by practising sun safety
- Parents/guardians will be asked to ensure their children wear appropriate cover clothing during sunny periods
- **(Primary academies)** - children are provided with a cap as part of their uniform bundle to assist with protection during warmer months to use when playing outside.

## Extreme heat - government level 4 / red alerts

During periods of extreme heat where government level 4/red alerts have been issued (this level of alert is used when a heatwave is so severe and/or prolonged that its effects extend outside the health and social care system. At this level, illness may occur among the fit and healthy, and not just in high-risk groups), the uniform policy will be relaxed to allow the following:

### Parents / carers will be notified of these amendments via text message:

#### ○ **Students**

##### **(Secondary academies)**

Students will be allowed to come in PE kit; shorts/skorts, purple polo t-shirt & trainers. Black PE socks will not be required to be worn. If students do not wish to wear PE kit then white shirts with top buttons undone, no tie, uniform trousers, skirts (tights would be required), shorts or skorts and blazers should be left at home.

#### ○ **Staff**

Staff will not be required to wear jackets and colleagues do not need to wear ties, open necked short sleeved shirts or polo t-shirts are acceptable.

It is important that staff choose clothing that is professional but takes account of the hot conditions.

## 3 Using sunscreen

### Sunscreen

- The use of factor 15+ all day sunscreen will be encouraged across the whole school day and during outdoor school trips or visits.
- We will remind parents/guardians to provide their child(ren) with sunscreen for school trips and events.
- We WILL NOT hold a stock of sunscreen in the school.

### ***Foundation / Key Stage 1***

- Parents/guardians will be asked to apply sunscreen to their children before they come to school.
- Parents/guardians will be asked to sign a form giving permission for their children to bring their own sunscreen to school and apply it themselves.

- The sunscreen must be labelled with the pupil's name and will be stored in crates and kept by the class teacher.
- The crates of sunscreen will be made available to the children during break times and lunch times.
- Children will be supervised with the application of their sunscreen and supported where needed.

### ***Key Stage 2***

- Parents/guardians will be asked to apply sunscreen to their children before they come to school.
- Parents/guardians will be asked to provide their child(ren) with their own sunscreen to bring to school so that they can apply it themselves.
- The children will be encouraged to apply sunscreen themselves before playtimes and lunchtimes.
- Children will be supervised with the application of their sunscreen.

### ***Key Stage 3, 4 and 5 - Secondary and Post 16 academies***

- All pupils will be encouraged to apply sunscreen before attending the academy and apply further during periods of break and lunchtime if going outside.

### ***Staff***

- Staff will be encouraged to wear sunscreen during PE or outdoor lessons and when on duty outside.

## **4 Related policies**

- First Aid Policy
- Health and Safety Policy
- Supporting Students with Medical Conditions Policy
- Uniform Policy