



## Springfield School – Sun Safe / Cream Policy

### **Purpose:**

To underpin the values and ethos of our school and our intent to ensure our children/young people are appropriately safeguarded this policy is included under the safeguarding umbrella.

As part of the Sun Safety Policy, our school will:

- Educate children throughout the curriculum about the cause of skin cancer and how to protect their skin and eyes.
- Educate children to wear clothes that provide good sun protection, and use sunscreens where appropriate.
- Hold outdoor activities in areas of shade whenever possible, and encourage children to use shady areas during breaks, lunch hours, sports and trips. Sunbathing is definitely discouraged.
- Work towards increasing the provision of adequate shade for everybody.
- Encourage staff and parents to act as good role models by practising sun safety.
- Make sure the Sun Safety Policy is working. We will regularly monitor our curriculum, assess shade provision, and review the sun safety behaviour of students and staff (the use of hats, shade etc.).
- Encourage pupils to apply their own sun cream (supplied by home) before break/lunch time or as necessary. Younger/less able pupils may need support with this and this should be set out in their care plan.

### **Sunscreen**

The incidence of skin cancer in the UK has doubled over the last 15 years and continues to rise. It is the most common form of cancer in the country and is almost always caused by the sun. Skin cancer is therefore preventable and by protecting the skin of young children and teenagers it is possible to reduce the risk of sunburn and cumulative damage caused by the sun. There is evidence that sunburn in childhood increases the risk of skin cancer later in life. Some people are more at risk of skin cancer than others.

Protection against the sun is necessary when UV radiation levels are at their highest. In the UK this is:

- Between April and September.
- Between 11 am and 3 pm.

On cloudless days even when the temperature is not high or there is a cooling wind (although cloud reduces UV levels, it is still possible to burn under light cloud). When UV is also reflected, adding to the overall intensity that reaches the skin; light surfaces like concrete, water, sand and snow reflect UV

### **Parents:**

- We require parents to **apply sunscreen** prior to the school day and **ensure your child has an appropriate sun hat**
- We will **re-apply sunscreen** in exceptional circumstances therefore, all pupils will require an **individual labelled sunscreen** bottle to remain in school (this is to avoid allergies, contamination etc)
- Where children have **prescription sunscreen** the class teacher should be informed and this will be written into the **child's Personal Passport**