



Date	April 2018
Ratified	April 2018
Review	April 2021

## **Sun safety policy**

### **1. Purpose**

- 1.1 To set out the Governing Body's policy and procedure for ensuring that children at Over Primary School are protected from and educated about keeping safe during particularly sunny periods of weather.
- 1.2 Too much exposure to ultraviolet light (UV) radiation from the sun causes sunburn, skin damage and increases the risk of skin cancer. Sun exposure in the first 15 years of life contributes significantly to the lifetime risk of skin cancer. There is enormous potential for schools to help prevent skin cancer in future generations. Schools are central to protecting children's skin this is because:
  - Children are at school five out of seven days a week at times when UV rays are high.
  - Most damage due to sun exposure occurs during the school years.
  - Schools can play a significant role in changing behaviours through role modelling and education.
  - Students and teachers are at risk of sunburn within 10-15 minutes of being exposed to strong sunlight.
  - Students spend an average of 1.5 hours outside per school day, more if involved in sports and outdoor activities.
  - Skin cancer is largely preventable through behaviour modification and sun protection during childhood.

### **2. Partnership**

- 2.1 Sun safety will be promoted through working with parents, governors and the wider community to improve understanding and provision to avoid the harmful effects of too much exposure to ultraviolet light (UV).
- 2.2 Staff will act as positive role models and set a good example by seeking out the shade whenever possible and wearing suitable clothing, hat and sunscreen.
- 2.3 School will email parents at least annually to inform them of school procedures and to give reminders about hats and sun-cream.

### **3. Education**

- 3.1 The school leadership team will aim to deliver an annual assembly dedicated to sun safety. This will emphasise the 5 S's of Sun Safety including: SLIP SLOP SLAP - to SLIP ON A T-SHIRT, SLOP ON THE SUN-CREAM, SLAP ON A HAT. Other reminders will be given in assemblies as necessary.
- 3.2 All classes will discuss sun safety as part of their PSHE curriculum, at an appropriate time in the school year.
- 3.3 Parents and Carers will be asked to support this policy by encouraging their children to adopt the Slip, Slop, Slap message and act as role models.
- 3.4 Children will be given regular reminders about hats, re-applying home-provided sun-cream and finding shade outside. These will be reinforced through posters on exits.

## **4. Protection**

### **4.1 Shade**

The school's outside area has plenty of shade provided by trees and buildings. Special events (on or off-site), such as sports days, will be risk assessed and additional shade provided if necessary, e.g. using gazebos.

Children will be encouraged to use the shaded areas of the school during playtimes when appropriate.

Staff will take care to ensure thought is given to children's protection during PE and other outside learning. This may mean activities are adapted or shortened to reduce sun-exposure and utilise shade.

### **4.2 Clothing**

Children will be encouraged to wear clothes that provide good sun protection, including hats, whilst also allowing them to stay cool. They will be regularly reminded to put hats on before going outside.

### **4.3 Sunscreen**

Parents/Carers will occasionally be reminded to ensure children apply high-factor and long-lasting sunscreen before coming to school. Children can bring sunscreen to school for them to self-apply during the day. Staff will aim to remind children to do this but it is very difficult to guarantee this on a daily basis.

If children swim during the school day, they will be reminded to re-apply sunscreen afterwards.

### **4.4 Drinking water**

Children are encouraged to increase their water intake in hot weather and are encouraged to drink water during break times and lunch times. Every child should bring a water bottle to school every day.

There are two water fountains available for children to use during playtimes.

## **5. Monitoring and Review**

- 5.1 The headteacher will be responsible for monitoring the implementation and effectiveness of this policy. The policy will be reviewed by the Governing Body as necessary or every 3 years.