



Sun Protection Policy

May Bank Infants School

Sun Protection Policy

Rationale

The damage that can be caused by over exposure to the sun is now widely acknowledged. Too much sun can cause skin damage including sunburn, premature ageing and skin cancer. Skin cancer is now the second most common type of cancer in the UK with over 40,000 new cases and 1,800 deaths each year. This is an issue for all ages, but extra care needs to be taken with children as sunburn in childhood can lead to long term skin damage.

The Aims of this policy are:

- **Education:** learning about sun safety to increase knowledge and influence behaviour.
- **Protection:** providing an environment that enables pupils and staff to stay safe in the sun.
- **Partnership:** working with parents/carers, governors, our school nurse and the wider community to reinforce awareness about sun safety and promote a healthy school.

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

Education

- All pupils will have at least 1 Sun Smart (class based) lesson per year.
- We will talk about how to be Sun Smart in assemblies
- Parents and guardians will be sent a letter explaining what the school is doing about sun protection and how they can help, at the beginning of the summer term
- Sun safety to be included in the PSHE curriculum.

Protection

- Shade - children will be encouraged to sit and play in the shade on the playground (under the shed; in the shade of the buildings; trim trail/wildlife area; nursery and reception canopy) and under the trees on the marsh.
- Additional sun shades will be available for children to sit under on hot days.
- The availability of shade is considered when planning excursions and all outdoor activities

Clothing

- Children should bring sun hats (clearly named) to school to wear at playtimes and during outdoor PE lessons in the summer term.
- Children may bring sunglasses to school to be worn outdoors on bright days

Sun Screen

- Parents are required to send a sunscreen into school (clearly named) and this will be safely stored by the staff.
- **In the event that sunscreen is not received, the school will contact parents to make a further request. Failure to comply may result in a child staying indoors should the staff consider this necessary in order to protect a child.**
- Parents are asked to talk to their child about the importance of sun protection.
- Parents are asked to return the sunscreen permission slip giving permission for staff to supervise the application of sunscreen.
- Parents are requested to apply sunscreen **before** children come to school
- **Children are only permitted to use their own sun screen.**
- Sun screen use will be encouraged on school trips and for outdoor PE lessons.

Water

- Parents are required to send water bottles into school.
- Staff will encourage children to drink water and allow children to re-fill water bottles from the water coolers.
- Children always have access to water bottles in the classroom. Water bottles will be available for the children throughout the lunch break and children are encouraged to take a water break in PE lessons

Role modelling

- Encourage staff to act as role models by:
- Wearing protective hats, clothing and sunglasses when outside
- Applying SPF 15+ sunscreen
- Seek shade whenever possible

Collaboration

The school will aim to work with parents, Governors and the wider community to reinforce awareness about sun safety and promote a healthy school.

This policy has been developed using the Cancer Research UK SunSmart Guidelines for Primary Schools.

Review

The Governors and staff will monitor and review the policy every three years.