

**Sun Protection Policy**

Very young children have sensitive skin that can be easily damaged by the sun's dangerous UV rays. Children spend a lot of their time outdoors and in the summer months they are unable to take responsibility for their own sun protection. Working together with parents, apply the following measures to ensure that all the children are adequately protected from the harmful effects of the sun.

**Aims and objectives**

* To protect children and staff while they are in our care at nursery.
* To work in partnership with parents to protect children at all times.
* Staff should lead by example to help children understand the importance of keeping themselves safe in the sun.
* Parents are asked to give written permission for sun cream to be applied for those children that are at nursery all day during the summer months.

**Education and Implementation**

* Staff are to be familiar with the risks of sunburn.
* Activities concerning sun awareness/ safety will be introduced to the children during the summer months and visual prompts included in the environment.
* Parents and guardians will be sent a letter explaining what we are doing about sun protection and how they can help at the beginning of the summer term and during summer holidays.
* When the sun is strong we will encourage children to sit/play in the shade where it is available.
* The nursery play areas have shade provided either by the school building, outdoor shelter(s) and/or we have temporary structures i.e. gazebos, etc for use during outdoor play
* Children will spend more time playing outside before and after peak sun times
* Children are required to wear sun hats. Nursery have a supply of appropriate sun hats for the whole cohort.
* Staff will encourage parents to dress their child in clothes that provide good sun protection.
* Children that have no sun protection will be restricted in their outdoor play.
* Children are encouraged to increase their water intake in hot weather. Water bottles will be refilled and accessed at all times.

**Parents will be reminded that**

* When a child is attending a session sun cream needs to be applied prior to arrival.
* IMPORTANT if your child is staying all day it needs to be a long lasting sun cream e.g. 8 hours plus
* To see nursery staff if they have any questions or queries

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