



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 the children are adequately protected from the harmful effects of the sun. Although fair skinned people are more at risk from sun damage, sun protection is relevant to both fair and dark skinned children.

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 11am and after 3pm, and less time outside over lunch.
- Children are required to wear sun hats that cover the ears, face and neck. Parents will be asked to provide a sun hat that is clearly labelled with their child's name that will remain at Nursery during the summer months (April – September). Nursery will endeavour to provide spare hats where possible.

- Staff will encourage parents to dress their child in clothes that provide good sun protection.
- Children that attend for a full day will need to bring in their own clearly labelled bottle of sunscreen, at least factor SPF 15+, that will remain at Nursery over the summer months. (April to September)
- Parents of children that attend for a half-day are required to apply sun cream to their child at home. For those children that attend for a full day, parents should apply sun cream before their child comes to nursery and DBS cleared staff will assist the child in re-applying it during lunchtime using clean gloves for each child to prevent cross contamination.
- Children that have no sun protection, ie sun hats, sun cream will be restricted in their outdoor play.
- Children are encouraged to increase their water intake in hot weather.

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