



Sun Safe Policy

Reviewed – May 2021

Rationale:

At Woodlawn we are committed to our duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people.

Skin cancer is one of the most common cancers in the UK and the number of cases is rising at an alarming rate but the majority of these cases could be prevented. Most skin cancers are caused by ultraviolet (UV) radiation from the sun.

If we protect ourselves from the sun then we can reduce our risk.

This is particularly important for children and young people whose skin is more delicate and easily damaged. Studies have found that sunburn during childhood can increase the risk of skin cancer later in life. You may not see the damage immediately because skin cancer can take years to develop, but children who are over-exposed to the sun now are storing up problems for the future.

Purpose:

The purpose of the sun safety policy is to provide:

- An environment that enables **pupils and staff** to stay safe in the sun
- A curriculum which includes sun safety, to increase knowledge and influence behaviour
- Collaboration with parents, staff, governors and the wider community to reinforce awareness about sun safety and promote a healthy school.

At Woodlawn School we acknowledge the importance of sun protection and want staff and pupils to enjoy the sun safely. We will work with staff, pupils and parents to achieve this through:

Education:

- Sun protection is incorporated into the curriculum for all ages,
- Sun safety assemblies take place twice a year,
- Sun safety is incorporated into our whole school 'Stay Safe' week,
- All teachers and staff are made aware of this policy and the importance of sun protection within the school environment,
- Sun protection is actively promoted to pupils in other ways at significant points of the school year (e.g. Assemblies, workshops, talks, whole school events),
- Parents are informed of the importance of sun protection through information sent home in newsletters and the policy is on our website.

Protection:

SHADE

- Some shaded areas and seating is available in the playground,
- We are committed to providing indoor lunchtime clubs throughout the week which children can choose to take part in,
- We have carried out a shade audit of all our outdoor areas and have agreed to increase opportunities for shade in key parts of the playgrounds over the next two years.

TIMETABLING

- When outdoor activities and events take place on very hot days, we ensure hats, appropriate clothing and sunscreen are worn to minimise sunburn,
- During very hot weather, morning/ afternoon breaks and lunch breaks will be monitored to minimise risk of sunburn.

CLOTHING

- Pupils are encouraged to wear wide-brimmed or legionnaire style hats when outside.
- Pupils always wear tops that cover their shoulders (vests and strappy tops are not allowed) as part of their school uniform and PE kit,
- Pupils are allowed to wear UV protective sunglasses on sunny days,
- Staff must also wear suitable clothing and hats to reinforce sun safety and apply sunscreen.

SUNSCREEN

- Parents are encouraged and reminded to ensure that high factor/8 hour sun screen is applied to children before school
- Each pupil is encouraged to have their own labelled bottle of sunscreen in school,
- Letters are sent home seeking parental permission for staff or pupils if able to apply sunscreen in school when needed, under staff supervision,

REHYDRATION

- All children are encouraged to bring a labelled water bottle into school each day,
- Children keep their water bottle in the classroom and can drink from it throughout the day
- There is a drinking water outlet in the school building which children can use to fill bottles.
- Water is provided in the dinner hall at lunchtimes.

Collaboration with parents:

- The key elements of our Sun safety policy are highlighted in our school newsletter/via text to parents. This is repeated during periods of very hot weather,
- Permission letters for application of sun screen are sent home in Spring B.
- Any relevant sun safety information that the school receives from organisations such as cancer Research UK, will be passed on to parents.