

SUN SAFETY POLICY



RATIONALE

Whilst we recognise that some sun is good for us, Sun Safety is an important health and safety issue for schools. Children spend almost half their childhood at school, with approximately 8 hours per week spent outdoors. During the warmer months of the year children are exposed to UV radiation from the sun, the majority of which is when UV penetration is at its strongest (between 11am and 3pm). Without adequate protection, a child's delicate skin can easily burn, causing accumulative and irreparable damage. This can significantly increase their risk of developing skin cancer in later life.

Skin cancer is the most common cancer in the UK with rates of the disease rising faster than any other cancer. Sun exposure in the first 15 years of life contributes significantly to a person's lifetime risk of skin cancer highlighting the importance of schools and parents working together, to increase knowledge, influence behaviour, ensure children are protected against UV and learn how to enjoy the sun safely.

WHAT DO WE DO TO KEEP OUR PUPILS SAFE?

- * We actively remind parents to apply sun cream before school, ideally using a longer lasting form of sun cream cover. E.g. Soltan Once Kids 3 Hours Waterplay Hypoallergenic Sun Care Lotion SPF 50 from Boots Chemist, which has a 6 hour no water play cover.
- * We have additional sensitive skin sunscreen available for outdoor activities/school trips, where children may have forgotten, lost or run out of theirs.

e.g. Mersea and Kingswood Trips.
- * We actively remind parents to send their child's sun hat in to school or leave a spare one in school.
- * We make spare hats available on school trips, if children have either lost theirs or not got a sunhat.
- * We actively encourage children to wear their sun hats when outside in the sunshine.
- * We actively encourage children to play in the shade, if they do not have a hat.
- * We ensure children wear school and PE uniforms that keep shoulders covered.

- * We allow the wearing of UV sunglasses, where applicable.
- * We are committed to check that sun safety measures are employed according to sun levels.
- * We encourage staff to be good role models by applying sunscreen/sun hats, as appropriate.
- * We check that sun hats are effective, being mindful of baseball hats and uncovered necks.
- * We are committed to ensuring all staff are actively involved in the implementation of this policy and that they consider the UV forecast and sun protection/ control measures when planning outdoor activities or school trips.
- * We currently provide shaded areas outdoors where pupils congregate for outdoor play, lessons and activities. This can include trees and/or purpose built or portable shade structures, ensuring adequate cover.
- * We are committed to educating all pupils annually on sun safety using comprehensive, curriculum linked lesson plans, activities and resources provided by the Sun Safe Schools national accreditation scheme.
- * We communicate sun safety information through a range of channels e.g. our website, newsletters, text messages, social media, school assemblies and staff meetings.
- * The school will regularly monitor and review the effectiveness of this policy and will update the policy regularly.

This policy has been agreed by staff and ratified by the *Governing Body* of Little Hadham Primary School.

This policy will be reviewed in May 2020.

E Stockley
May 2018