

8.13 Sun Protection Policy

Policy statement

Sun cream is very important in the warmer weather and although the sun might not be out and shining it can still affect the skin. There is evidence to show that:

- Skin should be protected from strong sunlight by covering up with suitable clothing, seeking shade and applying sunscreen.
- In the UK, the risk of getting sunburnt is highest from March to October, particularly from 11am to 3pm, when the sun's rays are strongest.
- There is also a risk of getting sunburn in other weather conditions – for example, light reflecting off snow can also cause sunburn. You can also burn in cloudy and cool conditions.

We expect sun cream to be applied to children by parents/carers prior to attending Preschool. If you wish your child to bring in a bottle of sun cream, please make sure it is named and kept in their own bag. We will not apply sun cream that is not named.

Procedures

- On especially hot days children will only be outside between 9.00-11.00am. In the afternoon we will not take children out until 2pm and will try and stay in the shade until 3pm.
- Sun hats are also an important part of being safe in the sun; these should be worn in sunny weather to protect the children. We ask that children bring in their own, named hat which has a brim and ideally protection for the neck. Remember that sun hats are not only protecting the skin, but also the eyes from the harmful rays. Sun hats do not necessarily need to be worn if the weather is warm but not sunny.
- We ask that parents ensure that children do not come to Preschool wearing clothing that exposes the skin, such as vests or strappy tops.
- We provide water in a named bottle throughout the day and fresh water is offered at snack and mealtimes. Staff will ensure all children have constant access to water to keep hydrated and we will actively remind them to drink.
- If we notice a child has heat rash throughout the day, we will keep them in the shade, keeping them cool and hydrated and removing necessary clothing. We keep the parents informed.
- If a child comes to the setting with heat rash or sunburn, then we will ask the parents to complete an existing injury form.
- If a child shows the signs of sun stroke such as vomiting, then this will be dealt with in line with our First Aid policy and procedures. We will contact the parents and ask they come immediately and collect their child.
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Version	Changes Made	Author	Date	Review Date
1.0	Baseline version	P Eccleston	24 th April 2018	April 2019
1.1	Minor formatting changes	N Hanlon	18 th April 2019	January 2020
1.1	Reviewed – no changes	N Hanlon	24 th January 2020	January 2021
1.1	Reviewed – no changes	N Hanlon	20 th January 2021	January 2023
1.2	Minor updates to reflect the provision of water bottles	N Hanlon	25 th January 2023	January 2025