



Health and Safety Annex 4

Sun Safety

Aims

- To protect children's skin from sun damage
- To prevent heat stroke and de-hydration
- To reinforce the importance of life long sun protection to parents, carers and children

Some facts:

- The sun emits Ultra Violet radiation which is the cause of most skin cancers.
- Skin cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer in the UK.
- There are 69,000 new cases registered annually.
- The highest risk of sunburn is between the hours of 11.00am and 3.00pm
- One incident of sunburn in childhood increases the risk of skin cancer by 50% in later life.

Guidelines

To keep children safe from sunburn at school and reduce risk of skin cancer parents should:

- Apply sun lotion/cream children before they arrive at school in the morning. Use sunscreen of protection factor 15 or higher
- Provide children with a brimmed sun hat for play times and lunch times
- Encourage children to keep body areas covered wherever practicable. Provide loose fitting clothes made of cotton for greatest comfort
- Provide children with a plastic re-useable drinks container

And should not:

Send children to school with sun lotions as this presents further health and safety risks.

Teachers and other adults in school will:

- Encourage children to keep body areas covered wherever practicable
- Ensure that when children are working outside shade will be made use of whenever practicable.
- Allow children to access drinking facilities as and when appropriate and necessary for the children's comfort
- Plan activities outdoors to coincide with cooler temperatures i.e. PE on the field should be undertaken before 11pm when possible on hot days
- Be collectively responsible for implementing the sun safe policy

Sun hats will be lent/provided to children who do not have theirs in school

A reminder about the policy will be sent home to parents at the beginning of each summer term. Sunglasses are not required to be worn at school but if you provide them then sunglasses should that offer 100UV protection.