



Sun Awareness Policy

'The number of cases of malignant melanoma, the most serious form of skin cancer, is rising at an alarming rate. The good news is that the majority of these cases could be prevented. Most skin cancers are caused by too much ultraviolet (UV) radiation from the sun. If we protect ourselves from over exposure to 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.'

<http://www.cancerresearchuk.org/>

At Woodcote Primary School we acknowledge the importance of sun protection and want staff and pupils to enjoy the sun safely. By teaching about sun awareness and encouraging the children to wear appropriate clothing and taking the required protection, we are helping the children to learn the life skills which may help to prevent skin cancer in later life. We will work with staff, children and parents to achieve this through:

Education

- All children will be taught about how to be sun aware in their class at an appropriate time of year.
- During assemblies, the children will be reminded about being sun aware, particularly when the weather initially turns warmer.
- Parents will be reminded on the newsletter about sending their child into school with hats and labelled sun protection (SPF over 15).
- Parents will be made aware of this policy.
- This Sun Awareness policy will be published on the school's website.
- Information about sun awareness will be kept in the staffroom.

Protection

- Children will be encouraged to sit or play in the shade.
- A portable sunshade is erected on the school field during the hottest weather.
- Permanent sunshades are erected on the school playground and the EYFS outside area.
- Children are strongly encouraged to wear hats during hot weather.
- If the weather is particularly hot, the children have access to a classroom so that they may stay inside during their lunch break.

Timetabling

- Wherever possible during hot weather, lessons will not take place outside during the hottest time of the day unless there is adequate shade available. Where this is unavoidable, children must wear hats, clothing and sunscreen to avoid sunburn. Children must also take their drinking water bottles with them.

Clothing

- Children should not wear strappy tops and should have their shoulders covered at all times (including PE lessons).
- Parents are reminded to send a suitable hat into school via the school newsletter.
- Children will be reminded to wear their hats before going outside as appropriate.
- Adults should be role-models and also wear hats whilst on duty.
- In order to stay cool, the children do not have to wear a tie during the summer term.

Sunscreen

- Children are encouraged to come to school wearing a suitable sunscreen (over 15 SPF). Ideally this should be a sunscreen giving extended protection (i.e. 8 hour protection).
- Parents are advised that children may bring in their own sunscreen in a labelled bottle.
- Although the school will not generally supply sunscreen, parents are requested to inform us if there are any known allergies to sunscreen, so there are exceptional circumstances, we are able to apply sunscreen if the need arises.
- Children are reminded at key points of the day (i.e. playtime and lunchtime) to reapply their sunscreen if necessary.
- Children should be able to apply their own sunscreen; where possible adults will supervise and try to ensure that there is even coverage, however it is not practical or feasible for staff to oversee all applications in the school. Additional support will be targeted towards the younger children or those with specific difficulties, whether medical or educational special needs.

School Visits

- Prior to a school visit, parents will be reminded to send in appropriate sun protection.
- During residential visits, staff will remind children about sun awareness and protection when necessary.

This policy will be reviewed by governors every three years or sooner if deemed necessary.

Signed:

Date: