



# DERWENT VALE PRIMARY AND NURSERY SCHOOL

Policy:

## **SUN SAFETY POLICY AND GUIDANCE**

(FOR THOSE PROVIDING SERVICES TO CHILDREN -PRIMARY SCHOOLS AND EARLY YEARS SETTINGS)

**References:** <http://www.cancerresearchuk.org/health-professional/prevention-and-awareness/sunsmart/sun-safety-at-schools>

### **Policy Statement regarding Sun Safety:**

Governors and staff are fully aware of the dangers that over exposure to sunlight can have on skin. The following sets out the main aspects of our school policy to protect children. This should be read in conjunction with the school Health and Safety policy.

As a school there are two aspects to the policy, the implementation of safe school practice and the supporting strategies.

### **Implementation:**

As a school we will:

1. Develop staff and pupil awareness, i.e. through provision of information regarding sun safety and available resources to teachers
2. Provide parents/carers with information about sun protection requirements at school
3. Implement a sun protection programme: The main points are:
  - Reduce sun exposure between 11am and 4pm
  - Seek shade or create your own shade
  - Ensure pupils and staff wear t-shirts and hats
  - Encourage the correct use of Sunscreen [www.sunsmart.org.uk/advice---and---prevention/sunscreens](http://www.sunsmart.org.uk/advice---and---prevention/sunscreens)
4. Other sun safety precautions include wearing UV protective sunglasses, using lip balm with a SPF of 15 or greater and performing regular skin examinations.
5. All pupils' sun cream/sticks/ roll on must be clearly labelled. No child should share products belonging to other children.

### **Application of Sun Cream:**

- Parents will be encouraged to apply cream before the start of school. There are proprietary products on the market which only need to be applied once per day.
- Normally, pupils will be encouraged to apply their own cream (preferably a 'roll on' style) under the supervision of an adult
- Adults may help children apply cream to face, neck and arms. Children should apply cream to their own legs. Adults may only apply cream where another adult is present
- Staff will apply sun cream to pupils who cannot manage to apply it themselves appropriately. Generally these will be pupils with special educational/physical needs or very young pupils.

### **Supporting strategies:**

1. Develop a proactive supervision procedure during the dinner break (i.e. check students for appropriate attire - sunhats etc., encourage the use of shade etc). This should particularly focus on pupils whose parents have not provided them with either cream or protective clothing.
2. Sunhats will be considered to be part of school uniform and children will be actively encouraged to wear them.
3. Provide parents with information on the type and recommended preventive strategies for sun safety through school newsletters.
4. Encourage and ensure through advance notice that parents, staff and students use a preventive approach on special, all-day activities such as PE days, educational visits and sports days.
5. Sports day will be held in the morning and finish before lunch to avoid the hottest part of the day.
6. Provide a balance of indoor and outdoor activities during peak times. Provide an indoor area to allow children to shelter from the sun. Supervisors will monitor pupil movement.

7. Utilise shaded areas for outdoor play. The Headteacher will organise a review of the outdoor areas around school with a focus on providing shade. The resulting action plan will be implemented and will be monitored by the governors responsible for Health & Safety and Buildings & Grounds.
8. Plant mature trees in play areas - involve students in the planning and care of these.
9. Provide protective shade - buildings, awnings etc.
10. Provide shaded seating - under trees, parasols for picnic benches etc.
11. Model "sun safe practices". All adults should be seen to adhere to sun safe practices.
12. The dangers of sun will form part of the PSHE/science curriculum.

**AS A GENERAL RULE OF THUMB, ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNGER CHILDREN**

**" If my shadow is shorter than me I need to stay in the shade"**