



## EARLY YEARS

### Sun Protection Policy

#### **Statement of intent**

Children are encouraged to access the well-resourced outdoor play spaces as much as possible, but during the summer months we are aware of the need to protect them from the harmful rays of the sun. We have therefore developed this policy.

#### **Aim**

We aim to have several outdoor play sessions everyday throughout the year as well as having outside activities freely available to the children. By taking what measures we can to protect the children in our care from the harmful effects of the sun we can help reduce the risk of skin cancer in later life caused by UV radiation.

#### **Practice**

- Include sun-safety in our summer term activities.
- It is our policy that all children must wear sunscreen regardless of skin colouring during the summer months.
- Parents of children in Reception will be asked to provide a sun hat for their child. Hats which protect the face, neck, ears and crown of the head are provided for children in Kindergarten. Should parents wish to provide hats, these should be labelled and kept in the children's pigeon holes.
- It is requested that all children arrive already wearing sun-screen during the summer months, even on cloudy days. We also request that each parent provides us with a bottle of factor 30 or higher sun screen for their child, clearly labelled with the child's name. These should be placed in the child's colour group basket (Kindergarten only) or in Reception classrooms. Parental permission will be requested in writing to apply this sun-screen to the child before afternoon outdoor activities, to provide continual protection throughout the day.
- Parents / carers of children who have a medical reason which prevents them from wearing sun screen, will be asked to provide a suitable alternative.
- For health & safety reasons each child must have their own sunscreen.
- Staff will discuss regularly how to keep children safe in the sun and our routines will be regularly evaluated
- When hot weather is forecast, we will re-arrange our timetable to enable outside play/activities earlier in the day - children will access the outdoor space more in the cooler times of the day when the sun's rays are less powerful, ie before 11am and after 3pm. During these times we will organise more outdoor activities and during the lunchtime period we will arrange more indoor activities. Play outdoors will be in shaded areas as best is possible with staff modelling this and moving equipment as may be necessary to achieve this.
- Water and other drinks are always readily available to the children throughout the year, but in the warmer months we place greater emphasis on the children having a regular fluid intake, as small children can dehydrate very quickly.

*If you have any concerns regarding this policy please speak to a member of staff.*

**PARENTAL PERMISSION FOR SUN PROTECTION**

**Please tick as appropriate:**

- During the Summer months I will apply a suitable sunscreen before my child arrives at school.
- During the Summer months I will supply a named sunscreen for my child, to be kept at school.
- I give Early Years staff permission to apply my child's sunscreen, to my child, before outdoor activities when necessary.
- I will provide a named sun hat (legionnaire-style) for my child.   
(Hats will be provided for KG children)
- I will advise Early Years staff if my child is allergic to sunscreen and I will provide an alternative protection.
- **(In the unlikely event that my child does not have his/her own sunscreen at school I give permission for Early-Years staff to apply an alternative SPF50+ when necessary)**

Name of Child .....

Signature of parent/guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_