

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

There are two parts 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 newsletters and through the messages we give to children in the classrooms and settings.
2. Provide parents/carers with information about sun protection requirements at school.
3. Implement a sun protection programme: The main points are:
 - Where possible: Reduce sun exposure between 11am and 4pm;
 - Seek shade or create your own shade;
 - Ensure pupils wear hats;
 - Encourage the correct use of sunscreen.
4. Allow other sun safety precautions including wearing UV protective sunglasses, using lip balm with a SPF of 15 or greater.

Application of Sun Cream

- Parents will be encouraged to apply cream before the start of school. There are a range of products on the market which only need to be applied once per day;
- Teachers and other staff members are not encouraged, and cannot be required, to apply sunscreen to pupils, due to the potential for allegations of abuse;
- Staff will only apply sun cream to pupils who cannot manage to apply it themselves appropriately. At our school it is anticipated that this may be the case for the youngest children and those with SEND;
- Sunscreen will be self-administered, under supervision, wherever possible;
- If children need to have sunscreen in school, parents are asked to provide sunscreen in an original bottle labelled with their name;
- School does not have a supply of sunscreen, children can only use their own;
- Sunscreen will be stored in a cool, dry place in school. Ensuring the sunscreen is within the expiry date is the responsibility of parents and not school staff;
- Children will only apply their own sunscreen. Children must not share sunscreen.

Should a member of staff need to apply sunscreen:

- Staff may help children apply sunscreen to face, neck and arms;
- Only children should apply cream to their own legs;
- Adults may only apply cream when another adult is present.

Supporting strategies

1. School has a proactive supervision procedure during the dinner break (i.e. check pupils for appropriate attire – sunhats etc., encourage the use of shade etc). This will 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. Every child in Nursery and Reception must wear a hat to be able to access learning in Class 1's outdoor area.
3. School will provide parents with information on the type and recommended preventive strategies for sun safety through school newsletters.

4. School will encourage and ensure through advance notice, that parents, staff and pupils use a preventive approach on special, all-day activities such as, outdoor PE/games educational visits and sports days.
5. Sports day: all children will wear hats and have water. Shade will be provided if possible.
6. School will utilise shaded areas for outdoor play.
7. Staff will model “sun safe practices”. All adults should be seen to adhere to sun safe practices.
8. The dangers of sun will form part of the RSHE/science curriculum. Teachers can take advantage of the many free, age-appropriate sun protection curricula or lessons. e.g. the SunWise School Program (www.epa.gov/sunwise) and the Shade Foundation (www.shadefoundation.org).

Remember: “If my shadow is shorter than me I need to stay in the shade”

This Policy was agreed by the governing body of Levens CE School on 24th March 2022

Signed S Bishop (Chair of Governors)

This Policy is due for review in Spring 2025