

LEVENS CE SCHOOL

HEALTH & SAFETY POLICY - PART 3

SUN PROTECTION PROCEDURES

Approved by	
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SUN PROTECTION PROCEDURES

We are aware of the dangers that over exposure to ultraviolet (UV) radiation from the sun can have on a person's health and skin from becoming sunburned to developing skin cancer and we acknowledge the importance of sun protection. We want staff and pupils to work in and enjoy the sun safely. Following these procedures will help us all achieve this.

1. Implementation

As a school we will:

- a) Develop staff awareness, i.e. provide information and teaching resources about sun safety like the NHS advice <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/sunscreen-and-sun-safety/> and the Sun Safe Schools resources see [Sun Safe Schools](#)
- b) Ensure messages are consistent for all staff and pupils about the need to cover up and use sunscreen regardless of how dark their skin is because skin cancer may be less prevalent in people with darker skin, but it is often more serious if it develops and prevention works best.
- c) Implement other sun safety precautions e.g. no hat, stay in the shade or indoors!
- d) Require all sun protection products that belong to pupils (balms, sunscreen etc.) to be clearly labelled and stored centrally in classrooms.
- e) Insist that pupils do not share products belonging to another pupil.
- f) Facilitate appropriate storage for pupils who have lotion in school.
- g) Reduce sun exposure as far as possible between the hours of 11am-4pm.
- h) Encourage repeat applications for children who are timetabled to be outdoors for increased periods of time e.g. PE lessons, after school sports clubs, attending YoYo.

1 Supporting Strategies

1.1 Education

We will ensure:

- All pupils will access an assembly and a series of sun safety lessons every year from <https://www.sunsafeschools.co.uk/>
- We begin our programme of work on sun safety at the start of the summer term.
- We are committed to educating all pupils annually about safe and unsafe exposure to the sun, including how to reduce the risk of skin cancer using the comprehensive, curriculum linked lesson plans, activities and resources provided by the Sun Safe Schools national accreditation programme.
- The dangers of the sun also form part of the PSHE/science curriculum.
- We provide families with information about recommended preventive strategies for sun safety through newsletters, & letters sent home at the end of the spring term (see Appendix A and B). Also through our involvement with Sun Safe Schools national accreditation programme.
- Staff, parents, pupils and visitors we invite, are take additional precautions and follow sun-safe practice on special or extended outdoor activities like PE days, educational visits and sports days by giving good notice to them about events and what pupils, spectators and others need to bring or wear.
- Information regarding school procedures and recommended sun safety guidance is shared with staff at the start of the summer term each year.

1.2 Protection

This is an ongoing process, but our key sun protection measures are as follows:

Shade:

- We provide a balance of indoor and outdoor activities during peak sun times and provide shade as required or an indoor area to allow pupils to shelter from it. Supervisors will monitor pupil movement. When the sun is strong, we will encourage pupils to sit/play in the shade and reduce physical exertion.
- School has a pro-active supervision procedure during the dinner break (i.e. checking pupils for correct

protective attire, sunhats etc. Sunhats are considered as part of the school uniform and children will be actively encouraged to wear them. If children are not wearing suitable headwear then they are encouraged to stay indoors or in the shade.

We review the shade available in our outdoor areas that we use for work and play between 11.00am and 4.00pm, implementing practical shade options where the site allows and it can be readily facilitated.

Timetabling:

- In the summer months, we will aim to schedule outdoor activities, either during the morning session or after 3pm. This is not feasible for school trips, though activities planned will make allowances for optimal sun protection. If unavoidable, we will ensure use of appropriate sun protection measures (shade, hats, clothing, sunscreen etc.).
- Sports day and other outdoor events will be held in the morning and finish before lunch if possible.
- When our Friends of Levens School organises outdoor events for the benefit of school and pupils, especially on school premises, we will share important points from school procedures like these about sun safety to help them plan safe and fun events e.g. making the most of our shade.

Clothing:

- When outside in sunny weather, pupils are required to wear hats that cover the ears, face, & neck.
- Sunhats are considered part of school uniform and pupils will be actively encouraged to wear them.
- We keep a supply of sun hats in case a pupil does not arrive for the day with one and we have a system in place to monitor pupils who regularly don't have with what they need each day so we can take appropriate action.
- Pupils are encouraged to wear tops that cover their shoulders.
- All staff, especially teachers, will lead by example and be seen to adhere to sun safe practices e.g., wearing hats on playground duty and when teaching outdoors on sunny days.

Sunscreen:

- Sunscreen use will be encouraged on days when the sun is strong in the summer term during breaks, PE lessons, and on school trips. Extra sunscreen will be available in case pupils forget their own. A supply is kept in each classroom and parents are reminded if this is a regular omission.
- Parents can support schools by encouraging self-administration at home to build confidence and reinforce healthy habits.
- Teachers, and other school staff where it is not in their contract of employment, cannot be required to apply sunscreen to pupils.
- Where assistance may be necessary for the very youngest, or pupils with special needs, parents should request advice and follow guidance from the school. It is recommended that if assistance is provided, parental consent is obtained from the school and assistance with application given to the face, neck and arms of the pupil only.
- School will provide cool areas to store pupils' sunscreen; parents are responsible for ensuring that the sunscreen is within date, that there is an ample supply, that it complies with recommendations of this policy and that it is clearly labelled.

Hydration:

- We are committed to ensuring children are kept hydrated with water and are encouraged to drink regularly throughout the day, especially during warmer weather and physical activity.

2 Review of the policy:

Our school will regularly monitor and review the effectiveness of this policy and will update the policy on an annual basis in-line with renewing our Sun Safety Schools annual accreditation.

References and Useful Links

Skcin (The Karen Clifford Skin Cancer Charity) Sun Safe School Scheme

Cancer Research SunSmart website

NHS: Sunscreen and Sun Safety

National Cancer Intelligence Network (NCIN): Skin Cancer Hub

Safe working in education, childcare and children's social care including the use of PPE

KAHSC General Safety Series G31 – Severe Weather Procedures

School's own Intimate Care Procedures



BE SUNSMART
 ENJOY THE SUN SAFELY

cruk.org/sunsmart



GETTING SUNBURNT CAN DOUBLE THE RISK OF SKIN CANCER

Be SunSmart. Whether you are at home or abroad, protect your skin from sunburn.

Spend time in the shade between 11am and 3pm

The summer sun is most damaging to your skin in the middle of the day.

Cover up with a t-shirt, hat and sunglasses

When the sun is at its strongest, sunscreen is not enough.

Use SPF 15+ sunscreen with a high star rating

Apply sunscreen generously and reapply often.

Young skin burns easily, so take extra care with children in the sun. And keep babies out of the sun, especially around midday.

Report unusual moles or skin changes to your doctor – finding skin cancer early can save lives.

For more about being SunSmart visit:

cruk.org/sunsmart

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