

SUN PROTECTION POLICY

Rationale

Skin cancer is one of the most common cancers in the UK and the number of cases is rising at an alarming rate. The good news is that the majority of these cases could be prevented. Studies have found that sunburn during childhood and adolescence can increase the risk of skin cancer later in life. The governing body recognises the responsibility of the school to ensure that students are protected from the harmful effects of the sun as much as possible during the school day.

Policy

The purposes of this policy are:

- To ensure that the school provides an environment that enables staff and students to stay safe in the sun.
- To make students aware of the dangers of exposure to sun and to influence students to change the way they behave in the sun.
- To reinforce awareness about sun safety and promote a healthy school.

Guidelines

- 1 The school promotes the SunSmart campaign. SunSmart is the national skin cancer Prevention campaign run by Cancer Research UK. The five key SunSmart cancer prevention messages are promoted using the SMART code.

S	Stay in the shade 11.00 am - 3.00 pm
M	Make sure you never burn
A	Always cover up – wear a T-shirt, hat and wrap around sunglasses
R	Remember to take extra care of young children
T	Then use factor 15+ sun screen

- 2 The following guidelines are in place regarding school uniform and sun protection:
 - Students are permitted to wear UV protective sunglasses outside the building during sunny weather
 - Sixth form students wear tops that cover their shoulders. Vests and strappy tops are not permitted
 - When sitting outside in the sun students are encouraged to wear wide-brimmed hats
 - The school farm has issued separate guidelines and procedures regulating the wearing of protective clothing
 - There is always a place inside the building where students may go
 - Staff are encouraged to wear UV protective sunglasses, suitable hats and clothing to reinforce role modelling

- 3 The following guidelines relate to the use of shade
 - Trees have been planted to provide long-term shade
 - Whenever possible seats are located in shady areas
 - Whenever possible outside organised activities make use of the shade available
 - Shade structures provide long/short-term shade

- 4 The following guidelines relate to the use of sunscreen:
 - Sunscreen should be used for covering exposed areas of skin when shade may be unavailable
 - Students should select a sunscreen with an SPF of at least 15+ which is also broad spectrum to protect from UVA and UVB rays
 - Sunscreen should be applied adequately and regularly, particularly at midday. This means two teaspoonfuls for the head and arms

- 5 When shade and protective clothing are not practical eg during PE lessons and educational visits sunscreen should be used. The following guidelines are in place:
 - Students are allowed to bring to school their own personal supply of sunscreen
 - Factor 15+ is recommended
 - Students are reminded to bring/use sunscreen particularly when participating in educational visits such as ski trips, Duke of Edinburgh expeditions etc.

- 6 Students are made aware of the dangers of exposure to the sun through the Science Curriculum and the Personal Wellbeing programme.
 - The dangers of sunbed use is incorporated into the personal wellbeing programme. In addition, students are shown how to look for the ABCD's of skin cancer and how to carry out a skin cancer self examination

Monitoring, Evaluate and Review

- 1 The policy is monitored by the Health and Safety Committee.
- 2 The governing body through the Curriculum and Student Welfare Sub-Committee will review and evaluate the effectiveness of the policy every three years. Where deficiencies are identified an action plan will be agreed.

Dissemination of the Policy

This policy is available on the school website, on request to parents, the LA, and OFSTED through the Head Teacher.

Other policies that have relevance are:

Educational Visits and Journeys
Health and Safety Policy
School Uniform Policy
Personal Wellbeing Policy

Date approved by governors	March 2013
Date for review	March 2016