

Dunton and Wrestlingworth Church of England VC Lower Schools Federation

Sun Safety Policy (COVID-19)

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Review Cycle:
Annual

Next Review:
01.04.20

Minuted by FGB: Delegated

Links with other policies

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1. INTRODUCTION

Too much exposure to ultraviolet light (UV) radiation from the sun causes sunburn, skin damage and increases the risk of skin cancer.

Cancer Research UK state; it is widely agreed that a combination of measures including using shade and clothing as the first lines of defence and sunscreen for the parts you can't cover, offers the best protection against over-exposure to UV radiation from the sun.

We believe schools are central to protecting children's skin this is because:

- Children are at school five out of seven days a week at times when UV rays are high.
- Most damage due to sun exposure occurs during the school years.
- Schools can play a significant role in changing behaviours through role modelling and education.
- Students spend an average of 1.5 hours outside per school day, more if involved in sports and outdoor activities.
- Skin cancer is largely preventable through behaviour modification and sun protection during early years.
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2. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

School Clothing is made of close weave fabric and includes shirts with collars and longer sleeves, longer style dresses and shorts. Sports clothes do not include vest style tops.

School staff will:

- Minimise the risks by limiting the amount of time that pupils are required to spend exposed to the sun.
- Consider the timing of events and using available shade between 11am and 3pm
- Encourage children to make use of all available shade provided by buildings, trees etc between 11am and 3pm.
- Allow pupils to wear sunglasses with UV protection. Please bear in mind, that for safety reasons, eyewear might be inappropriate for certain activities, particularly physical education.
- Support children in reapplying sunscreen before lunchtime where necessary. **Staff will not be able to apply sunscreen but will support children in talking through the process.**
- Encourage children to drink plenty of water to prevent dehydration.

Parents:

- Please apply sunscreen before your child comes to school preferably long lasting (i.e. 6-8 hour sunscreen). If it is necessary for your child to have sunscreen reapplied please send in a named bottle and ensure your child knows how to apply it. **Staff will not be able to apply sunscreen but will talk your child through the process.** Please ensure you have checked the expiry date.
- Send your child to school with a named suitable hat which provides head, face and neck protection from the sun.
- If you wish for your child to wear sunglasses please make sure they have UV protection, we do not allow any themed/toy/fun sunglasses.
- Send in a named water bottle every day.

3. Monitoring

The Headteacher and Deputy Headteachers have responsibility for monitoring this policy.