

SUN SAFETY POLICY

Beccles Primary Academy

Agreed by Governors July 2021

Next review July 2023

Signed:

The aim of this sun safety policy is to protect children and staff from skin damage caused by the effects of ultraviolet radiation from the sun. The success of this health promotion programme relies on an integrated whole school approach is adopted.

The main elements of this policy are:

- protection: providing an environment that enables pupils and staff to stay safe in the sun.
- education: learning about sun safety to increase knowledge and influence behaviour.
- partnership: working with parents/carers, governors, the school nurse and the wider community to reinforce awareness about sun safety and promote a healthy school.

This school believes in Sun Safety

As part of the Sun Safety policy, our school will:

- Educate children throughout the curriculum about the causes of skin cancer and how to protect their skin;
- Encourage children to wear clothes that provide good sun protection.
- Hold outdoor activities in areas of shade whenever possible, and encourage children to use shady areas during breaks, lunch-hours, sports and trips. Sunbathing is discouraged.
- Work towards increasing the provision of adequate shade for everybody.
- Encourage staff and parents to act as good role models by practising sun safety.
- Regularly remind children, staff and parents about sun safety through newsletters, posters, parents' meetings, and activities for pupils.
- Invite relevant professionals (school nurses and health promotion officers) to advise the school on sun safety
- Make sure the Sun Safety Policy is working. We will regularly monitor our curriculum, assess shade provision, and review the sun safety behaviour of our young people and staff (use of hats, shade etc).

Suggestions to help cope with hot weather

- Pupils to wear hats when outside.
- Pupils should wear sun cream. We encourage them to bring sun cream into school for reapplication during the day.
- Teachers should encourage pupils to drink water and ensure there are regular breaks for them to do so.
- Where possible, all doors and windows should be opened to provide a through breeze & classroom blinds should be drawn.
- Physical education lessons should be carefully planned to avoid sun exposure, unnecessary exertion and dehydration. In extreme weather, outdoor PE lessons should not last for more than 20 minutes when children should be brought indoors, given time to rest and drink water.
- Staff must also ensure they drink water regularly and take precautions against the high temperatures

In rare cases, extreme heat can cause heatstroke. Symptoms to look out for are:

Cramp in arms, legs or stomach, feeling of mild confusion or weakness.

If anyone has these symptoms, they should rest for several hours, keep cool and drink water. If symptoms get worse, medical advice should be sought. NHS Direct is available on 0845 4647 and parents informed.

If you suspect a member of staff or pupil has become seriously ill, call an ambulance. While waiting for the ambulance:

- If possible, move the person somewhere cooler.
- Increase ventilation by opening windows or using a fan.
- Cool them down as quickly as possible by loosening their clothes, sprinkling them with cold water or wrapping them in a damp sheet.
- If they are conscious, give them water to drink.
- Do not give them aspirin or paracetamol.