

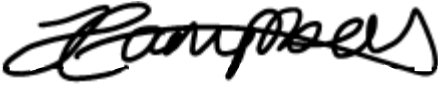

# Blagdon Primary School



## Sun Protection

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## Policy

<b>Reviewed by</b>	Jenny Campbell 	Sept 22
<b>Approved by</b>	Chris Mills 	Sept 22
<b>Endorsed by</b>	Local Governing Body (LGB)	
<b>Next Reviewed:</b>		September 2026

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### Introduction

We believe it is important to raise awareness of why our children need sun protection. We recognise that some sun is good for us but over-exposure to Ultraviolet Radiation (UVR) is an important safeguarding issue. Sun exposure in the first 15 years of life significantly contributes to a person's lifetime risk of developing skin cancer, highlighting the importance of increasing knowledge and influencing behaviours, ensuring children are protected against UVR and learn how to enjoy the sun safely.

This policy sets out how we protect children from the sun, educate about sun safety and how we collaborate with parents/carers to reinforce awareness about sun safety.

### Curriculum

We are committed to educating all pupils annually about safe and unsafe exposure to the sun.

These measures are in place:

- All pupils will receive at least one lesson per year about the importance of sun protection.
- We will talk about how to be 'Sun Smart' in assemblies and PSHE lessons.
- At the start of Term 4, throughout Term 5 and Term 6 and before the summer holidays, educational resources such as Sun Safe Schools national accreditation programme will be used to enhance children's learning.
- Parents/Carers will be sent a letter explaining what the school is doing about sun protection and how they can help at the beginning of Term 4. Parents/Carers are asked to ensure that their child has had sunscreen applied before coming to school.
- An email or section of our newsletter will remind parents/carers about our sun protection policy each year.

### Teaching and Learning

Staff to take into consideration the following things when planning lessons:

- When the sun is strong, we will encourage pupils to learn/play in the shade where it is available; seats and equipment are moved to shady areas and outdoor classroom areas will be used, as the permanent canopies provide shade. There are trees in the playground area which create shade, as will the building and external shelters.
- During outdoor learning time, children will be asked to go inside if they have had too much sun.
- Organised activities will make use of the shade available.

- When extreme hot weather warnings are given out, the Headteacher will assess the safety of children being outside and, where necessary, will reduce the time spent in the sun.
- Any trips which take place in Terms 4, 5 and 6 have requests for parents/carers to provide sunscreen, a hat and plenty of water.
- Sun protection is considered in off-site visit risk assessments.
- Water is available to the children at all times and they are encouraged to drink regularly throughout the day to avoid dehydration. Children are asked to bring named water bottles to school, which are available to them throughout their learning time. They are also encouraged to take their water bottles outside during break and lunchtime to increase their water intake.

## **Clothing**

Clothing is one of the most efficient barriers between our skin and the sun and should always be considered as the first line of defence against UV exposure. Ideally, clothing should cover as much skin and possible. Through regular reminders to parents/carers, staff and children, we ask that:

- when outside in sunny weather, children are encouraged to wear hats that adequately shade the face, neck, ears and cheeks. If children do not have a hat in school, then we have spare hats for them to wear.
- all teaching and non-teaching staff are encouraged to wear hats when on playground duty and teaching outdoors on sunny days for their protection and to act as role models for the pupils.
- pupils are encouraged to wear tops and dresses that cover their shoulders (as per our recommended school uniform).
- during extreme weather, the Headteacher will inform parents/carers that pupils can choose to wear their own clothes that are more comfortable but must still provide protection from the sun.

## **Sunscreen**

Sunscreen should be applied to areas of exposed skin that are not covered by clothing to protect it from Ultraviolet radiation. Without adequate protection, a child's delicate skin can easily burn, causing cumulative and irreparable damage. This can significantly increase their risk of developing skin cancer later in life.

- Sunscreen use will be encouraged on days when the sun is strong during summer at breaktime, during PE lessons and on school trips.
- We encourage children to apply sunscreen generously and regularly.
- Parents/Carers are asked to supply suncream for their child. We advise parents/carers to choose a sunscreen with an SPF of at least 30. Sunscreen should be labelled 'broad-spectrum' to protect from UVA and UVB rays. Sunscreen will ideally be labelled with a UVA star rating with a minimum of 4 stars to ensure a high-level protection against UVA. Once-a-day sunscreens are not recommended, as the level of protection decreases over time and all sunscreens should be regularly reapplied to maintain the required level of protection.
- Extra sunscreen will be made available in case children forget their own.
- Parents/carers will be sent a form asking them for permission to apply emergency sunscreen. If their child does not have sunscreen in school or permission for sunscreen to be applied by school, then parents/carers will be contacted and asked to bring some to the school to apply on their child.
- Staff will apply sunscreen to a child's face, ears, neck and arms if the child is not capable of doing it themselves, however we will always encourage a child to do this themselves in the first instance.

### **Communicating our Policy**

All staff are made aware of this policy and the importance of sun protection within the school environment at staff meetings. We communicate our policy with parents/carers through our emails and newsletters.

### **Review and Monitoring**

This policy will be reviewed every 4 years.