



Heronswood Primary School and Pre-School

Sun Safety Policy

RATIONAL

Too much exposure to ultraviolet light (UV) radiation from the sun causes sunburn, skin damage and increases the risk of skin cancer. Sun exposure in the first 15 years of life contributes significantly to the lifetime risk of skin cancer.

The main elements of this policy are:

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

PARTNERSHIP

- Sun safety will be promoted through working with parents, governors and the wider community to improve our understanding and provision to avoid the harmful effects of too much exposure to ultraviolet light (UV).
- Staff should act as positive role models and set a good example by seeking out the shade whenever possible and wearing suitable clothing, hat and sunscreen.
- Relevant professionals will be invited into the school periodically to advise the school on 'sun safety'.

EDUCATION

- Annually a special assembly will be dedicated to 'Sun Safety'. This will emphasise the 3 S's of Sun Safety including: SLIP SLOP SLAP - to SLIP ON A T-SHIRT, SLOP ON THE SUNCREEN, SLAP ON A HAT.
- At appropriate times during the year children will be reminded through our assemblies about 'How to be Sun Safe'.
- The curriculum for all year groups will include aspects of 'Sun Safety' annually.
- Parents and Guardians will be asked through letters/newsletters to support this policy by encouraging their children to adopt the Slip, Slop, Slap message and act as role models.
- Children will be encouraged to use the shaded areas of the school during playtimes.

PROTECTION

Shade:

- The school playground has shade provided either by the school building, outdoor shelter(s), trees and/or we have temporary structures i.e. gazebos, etc for use on sports days and other outdoor events.
- Children will be encouraged to use the shaded areas of the school during playtimes when appropriate.

Clothing:

- The children will be encouraged to wear clothes that provide good sun protection.
- Parents to provide a hat for their child. Hats will remain in school at all times (between March and end of September) and be easily accessible.

Sunscreen:

- Parents will apply a high protection sunscreen to their child/ren before they leave home. This sunscreen should be one that will provide adequate protection for the day.
- Where appropriate (e.g. sensitive skin, medical conditions, extreme weather) children can bring additional sunscreen into school. This sunscreen must be in a labelled bottle with your child's name and class. Children will be expected to apply the sunscreen themselves. In cases where children are unable to apply their sunscreen to the necessary level of protection, signed consent must be given to school so application can then be made by a member of staff.

Drinking Water:

- Children are encouraged to increase their water intake in hot weather and are encouraged to drink water during break times and lunch times. Every child should bring a water bottle to school every day, which they can refill as needed.

Written by: Miss L.Whelan

Ratified by Governors: June 2017

Date: May 2017

Reviewed: May 2019