

CAVENDISH CLOSE INFANT AND NURSERY SCHOOL

SUN SAFE SCHOOLS - 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. There is enormous potential for schools to help prevent skin cancer in future generations. 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.
- Children and teachers are at risk of sunburn within 10-15 minutes of being exposed to strong sunlight.
- Children 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.

The main elements of this policy are:

- Partnership: working with parents/carers, governors 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 children 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 5 S's of Sun Safety including: SLIP SLOP SLAP - to SLIP ON A T-SHIRT, SLOP ON THE SUNSCREEN, 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 some 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.
- The children will supply themselves with legionnaire or bucket style hats to protect their face, ears and back of their neck. Spare hats will be provided by school. Hats are expected to be worn when the UV level is 3 or more.
- The hats will be in school at all times (between March and end of September) and will be easily accessible.

Sunscreen:

- Each pupil will be provided with sunscreen (minimum SPF 30, with broad spectrum UVA protection) to apply themselves when appropriate and used on or off site for any prolonged outdoor school related activities.

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 will be provided with a water bottle by school. It will be filled with fresh water every day.

This policy has been approved by the Governing Body in June 2016 and will be reviewed in June 2017.

Signed: _____ Mrs Carol Moore (Chair of Governors) Date: _____