

PORTFIELD SCHOOL & SATELLITE CENTRES



POLICY DOCUMENT FOR FOR SUN PROTECTION



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Review of Policy

This policy will be reviewed biennially unless changes of circumstances or legislation requires it to be amended earlier.

This policy was adopted by:

Signed:
Headteacher

Date:

Signed:
Chair of Governors

Date:

Portfield School

Sun Protection Policy

At Portfield School we acknowledge the importance of sun protection and want staff and pupils to enjoy the sun safely.

MISSION STATEMENT

Working together Learning together Achieving together

At Portfield School we strive to

- Create a happy, safe, supportive and stimulating learning environment
- Value everyone
- Develop everyone's personal, social, emotional health and wellbeing
- Promote relevant academic and vocational skills
- Meet individual needs through an imaginative and flexible approach
- Enable all learners to achieve their full potential

UNCRC United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child

- Portfield School places the values and principles of the UNCRC at the heart all policies and practices
- Portfield School is a Rights Respecting School

Aims of policy

- **PROTECTION:** providing an environment that enables children and staff to stay safe in the sun.
- **EDUCATION:** learning about sun safety to increase knowledge and influence behaviour.
- **COLLABORATION:** working with parents, the management structure and the wider community to reinforce awareness about sun safety

How Portfield School keeps pupils safe in the sun

1. Staff will provide information to pupils about the dangers of exposure to the sun.
2. Parents and guardians will be sent a letter explaining what the school is doing about sun protection and how they can help at the beginning of the summer term.
3. When the sun is strong Staff will ensure pupils wear sun protection cream before they go out to play at breaktimes/lunchtimes or participate in outdoor lessons Pupils will be encouraged and supported to independently apply cream. Parents are asked to sign consent for staff to support pupils use of suncream, or apply directly where pupils skill level does not enable them to be independent.
Appendix 1
4. Pupils to wear sun hats if exposed to the sun for any prolonged period of time. Parents are requested to send in appropriate clothing, hats and suncream for their child's use.

5. Pupils to be encouraged to play in the shade. Appropriate shaded areas are available in all play areas. Where pupils insist on playing in the sun they will remain outside for reduced periods of time.
6. In the summer months we will aim to schedule outside activities, school trips and PE lessons before 11am and after 3pm if appropriate. If this is unavoidable we will ensure hats, clothing and sunscreen are all worn to prevent sunburn.
7. SLT will audit arrangements periodically as necessary see Appendix 2

Appendix 1

Dear Parent or Guardian,

Now the summer term has started, I wanted to write and tell you about our **sun protection policy**. We have developed this with the help of parents, teachers and pupils to ensure that we can all enjoy the sun safely over the coming months.

The sun's rays are particularly strong over the summer and they can damage children's skin. This may not seem like a problem right now, but it can lead to **skin cancer** in later life. Your child's health and well-being are very important to us, which is why we have decided to:

- Increase the amount of school time spent learning about sun protection.
- Provide more shade in the playground.
- Encourage pupils to wear hats and t-shirts when outside.
- Encourage pupils to use at least SPF 15 sunscreen in summer months.

Your support is very important if our new policies are going to work. You can help by:

- Talking to your child about the importance of sun protection at home.
- Sending your child to school with a wide-brimmed hat.
- Signing the slip on your child's Health care plan to ensure staff can support your child apply suncream.
- Send in a high factor sun cream.

Together I hope we can have a very happy and safe term to come!

Best wishes

Head teacher

Appendix 2 Sun Protection Policy Checklist

| Education | Currently in place | Planned soon | Not planned | Comments |
|---|--------------------|--------------|-------------|----------|
| Sun protection is discussed interactively with all children | √ | | | |
| Children engage in activities (picture painting, songs etc.) designed to promote sun safety behaviour | √ | | | |
| Sun protection and the dangers of sunbed use are incorporated into the curriculum for all ages. | √ | | | |
| All teachers and staff are made aware of this policy and the importance of sun protection within the school environment. | √ | | | |
| Sun protection is actively promoted to pupils in other ways at significant points of the school year including before and during summer and prior to summer holidays (e.g. assemblies, workshops, talks). | √ | | | |
| Parents are informed of the importance of sun protection through information sent home in a letter informing them of the sun protection policy (see the parent letter template in these guidelines). | √ | | | |

| Protection | Currently in place | Planned soon | Not planned | Comments |
|---|--------------------|--------------|-------------|----------|
| Shade | | | | |
| Seats and equipment are moved to shady areas. | √ | | | |
| Organised activities make use of the shade available. | √ | | | |
| Timetabling | √ | | | |
| Outdoor activities and events are planned outside of 11am - 3pm where possible and appropriate (if this is sometimes unavoidable, ensure hats, clothing and | √ | | | |

| | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|--|
| sunscreen are worn to minimise sunburn). | | | | |
| In the summer term, morning break is extended and lunch breaks shortened to minimise time in the midday sun | √ | | | |
| Clothing | √ | | | |
| Children are encouraged to wear wide-brimmed hats when outside. | √ | | | |
| Spare hats are available for children who forget their own. | √ | | | |
| Children are encouraged to wear tops that cover their shoulders (vests and strappy tops are discouraged). | √ | | | |
| Children are allowed to wear UV protective sunglasses. | √ | | | |
| Carers also wear suitable hats and clothing to reinforce role modelling | √ | | | |
| Sunscreen | √ | | | |
| Letters are sent home asking for parental permission for staff to apply sunscreen to children. | √ | | | |
| At least factor SPF 15+ sunscreen is used in school and is applied adequately and regularly – this means two teaspoonfuls for the head, arms and neck or two tablespoonfuls if in a swimming costume. | √ | | | |
| There is a school stock of sunscreen for pupils who forget their own. | √ | | | |
| Children are supervised applying their own sunscreen with the help of mirrors, if they are old enough to do so. | √ | | | |
| Each child brings in their own labelled bottle of sunscreen from home. | √ | | | |