

SOUTHERN ROAD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Sun Safety Policy

Approved by: Amirul Haque Date: 14.06.21

Last reviewed on: N/A New policy

Next review due by: Summer Term 2022

At Southern Road Primary we acknowledge the importance of sun protection and want staff and pupils to enjoy the sun safely. We will work with staff, pupils and parents to achieve this through:

1. Education

- Staff will be educated about how to be sun safety
- We will talk about how to be safe in the sun during assemblies at the start of the summer term and before summer break
- Parents and carers will be sent information (Appendix A) explaining what the school is doing about sun protection and how they can help at the beginning of the summer term

2. Protection from the sun outdoors

Shade

- When the sun is strong we will encourage pupils to sit/play in the shade where it is available
- Where possible, outdoor activities will take place in the shade

Timetabling

- In the summer months we will aim to schedule outside activities, school visits 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

Clothing

When outside in sunny weather, pupils are:

- Encouraged to wear wide brim hats that cover the ears, face and neck (baseball hats are not recommended)
- Encouraged to wear tops that cover their shoulders and remove any school jumpers/fleeces
- Allowed to wear UV protective sunglasses

Staff will be encouraged to wear suitable hats and clothing when on playground duty and teaching outdoors on sunny days to reinforce the sun safety message

Sunscreen

- Sunscreen use will be encouraged on days when the sun is strong during summer
- We will send communication home asking for parents to apply sunscreen to pupils before they come to school when the sun is strong during the summer months.
- We will allow children to reapply their own clearly labelled sunscreen when necessary
- We will keep a small supply of sunscreen for emergency use

It is recommended that sunscreen should be:

- A minimum Sun Protection Factor (SPF) 30
- Labelled 'Broad-Spectrum' to provide both UVA and UVB protection and labelled with a UVA symbol (minimum 4 stars)
- Sunscreen should be stored in a cool, dry, accessible place
- Checked for expiration date (if an expiration date is not displayed, look for an open jar symbol which will have a number next to it (i.e. 9M or 12M) - that's the number of months you can safely use the screen after opening)

4. Protection from the sun indoors

- Windows and other ventilation openings will be opened during the cool of early morning to allow stored heat to escape from the building
- The use of electric lighting will be kept to a minimum during heatwaves
- All electrical equipment, including computers and monitors will be switched off when not in use and will not be left in standby mode

5. Maintaining children's health during hot weather conditions

- Pupils will be encouraged to eat normally
- Pupils will be encouraged to bring their own labelled water bottle to school
- They will be encouraged to drink plenty of water on hot days
- Classroom layouts will be adjusted if necessary to avoid direct sunlight on pupils

Appendix 1:

Dear Parent/Carer,

We have recently developed a sun safety policy to ensure that we can all enjoy the sun safely. 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
- Encourage pupils to wear hats when outside
- Encourage pupils to use at least SPF 30 sunscreen in summer months
- Encourage pupils to stay in the shade where possible

More details of these and other new sun protection plans can be found in our sun protection policy which is available on our website or from the school office. Your support is very important to us.

You can help by:

- Talking to your child about the importance of sun protection at home
- During summer term applying sunscreen to your child prior to their arrival at school
- On days such as sporting events or school visits providing your child with their own clearly labelled sunscreen
- Sending your child to school with a wide-brimmed hat (these offer more protection than baseball caps)
- Ensuring your child's water bottle is clearly labelled and in school daily

*For 30 hours nursery children (who spend a large portion of their learning outside) please also send your child to school with their own bottle of sunscreen. These can be kept in school and staff will assist them in applying this at lunchtime. For other nursery and reception pupils we will keep a small supply of sunscreen for emergency use, please let staff know on drop off if you have not applied sunscreen to your child that morning.

Many thanks,

Mr MacGregor

Headteacher