



Policy or procedure reference number: 60

Issue number : 1

Date: 03/10

Review date: 03/11

Responsibility for review: Curriculum

Related policies: Health and Safety

Sun Policy

Introduction

The aim of this policy is to state the procedures followed at Oakhurst Community Primary School to enable our children to work and play safely during the summer months when the sun is at its brightest and when it is potentially harmful to our children. We have followed the Cancer UK Sun Smart scheme as it offers clear and practical advice to schools, parents and children.

Rationale

Skin cancer is one of the most common cancers in the UK and the number of cases is rising at an alarming rate. The good news is that the majority of these cases could be prevented. Most skin cancers are caused by UV radiation from the sun. If we protect ourselves from the sun then we can reduce our risk. This is particularly important for children and young people whose skin is more delicate and easily damaged. Sunburn in childhood can double your risk of skin cancer. You will not see the damage immediately because skin cancer can take years to develop.

What is the SunSmart campaign?

SunSmart is the national skin cancer prevention campaign run by Cancer Research UK. The SunSmart schools initiative encourages schools to develop and adopt sun protection policies. They are part of a broader campaign communicating effective skin cancer prevention messages to the general public.

The five key SunSmart skin cancer prevention messages are:

Spend time in the shade between 11 and 3

Make sure you never burn

Aim to cover up with a t-shirt, hat and sunglasses

Remember children burn more easily

Then use factor 15+ sunscreen.

At Oakhurst Community Primary School we want staff and pupils to enjoy the sun safely. We will work with staff, pupils and parents to achieve this through:

Education

- The dangers of the sun and how we can protect ourselves from it are discussed in class and assemblies

- Sun protection will be promoted in Newsletters and/or letters to parents and carers explaining how they can help to protect their children
- Leaflets have been and will continue to be given to parents as they become available
- This policy is available on our website for parents to download.

Protection

- Seats will be placed in shady areas on the playground
- Organised activities make use of the shade available
- We will make available to parents any promotions we receive for sun protection products
- Children are encouraged to bring sun protection cream into school
- Sunscreen and suitable clothing will be encouraged on educational visits
- Exposure to the sun is included on risk assessment forms for educational visits and preventative measures are outlined
- Pupils are actively encouraged to drink regularly and take water bottles outside during lunch break

Clothing

- Pupils are encouraged to wear hats when outside
- Supervisory staff also wear suitable clothing

This policy will be reviewed every two years or when guidelines change.

End of policy.