



ASHBOURNE HILLTOP Primary & Nursery School

Sun Safety Policy

Governors and staff are fully aware of the dangers that over exposure to sunlight can have on skin. The following sets out the main aspects of our school policy to protect children. This should be read in conjunction with the school Health and Safety policy.

As a school there are two aspects to the policy; the implementation of safe school practice and the supporting strategies.

Implementation

As a school we will:

1. Develop staff awareness, i.e. through provision of information regarding sun safety and available resources to teachers.
2. Implement the concepts of the "Slip, Slap, Slop" programme; The main points are:
 - reduce sun exposure between 11.00am and 4.00 pm
 - seek shade or create your own shade
 - SLIP! on clothing to cover your arms and legs
 - SLAP! on a wide brimmed hat
 - SLOP! on sunscreen with SPF (sun protection factor) 15 or higher
 - Keep babies under one year out of the direct sun
 - Tanning beds and sunlamps are not a safe way to tan

Other sun safety precautions include wearing UV protective sunglasses, using lip balm with a SPF of 15 or greater and performing regular skin examinations.

All pupils' sun cream, sticks, roll on, must be clearly labelled. No child should share products belonging to other children.

Application of sun cream

Parents will be encouraged to apply cream before the start of school. Normally pupils will be encouraged to apply their own cream (preferably a roll on style) under the supervision of an adult.

Adults may help children apply cream to face, neck and arms where parents have supplied a written request. Children should apply cream to their own legs. Adults may only apply cream where another adult is present.

The School takes an active part in the Colin Bloomfield sun protection scheme. The School has been provided with dispensers and sun screen that the children can access when required, however a letter was sent out to parents and they had the option to refuse this stating their own preference and guidance for their children. A list was given to class teachers and all the staff are aware of the preferences of individual parents.

Supporting strategies

1. Develop a proactive supervision procedure during the dinner break (i.e. check students for appropriate attire - sunhats etc., encourage the use of shade etc). This should particularly focus on pupils whose parents have not provided them with either cream or protective clothing.
2. Sunhats will be considered to be part of the school uniform and actively encouraged to be worn. Sunhats in school colours will be available in school colours from the office.
3. Provide parents with information on the type and recommended preventative strategies for sun safety through the school website.
4. Encourage and ensure through advance notice that parents, staff and students use a preventative approach on special all day activities such as P.E. days, educational visits and sports day.
5. Provide opportunity for children to sit in the shade of the umbrella in the courtyard. Supervisors will monitor pupil behaviour.
6. Utilise shaded areas for outdoor play. The head teacher will organise a review of the outdoor areas around school with a focus on providing shade. The review will include input from the pupils primarily through the school council. The resulting action plan will be implemented and be monitored by the governors responsible for health and safety and buildings and grounds. To:-
 - a. Plant mature trees in play areas - involve students in the planting and care of these.
 - b. Provide protective shade - buildings, awnings, willow sculptures, tents or canopies for extra shaded areas.
 - c. Provide shaded seating - under trees, parasols for picnic benches etc.
7. Model "sun safe practices". All adults should be seen to adhere to sun safe practices.
8. The dangers of sun will form part of the PSHE/Science curriculum.

**As a general rule of thumb - especially for younger children:
"If my shadow is shorter than me I need to stay in the shade"**