



St Martin's School

Sun Safe Policy



Introduction

We recognise that some sun is good for us but that over exposure to UV radiation is a safeguarding issue for schools. Without adequate protection, a child's delicate skin can easily burn, causing cumulative and irreparable damage. This can significantly increase their risk of developing skin cancer in later life. Sun exposure in the first 15 years of life contributes significantly to a person's lifetime risk of developing skin cancer.

Policy Aims

We aim to educate our children and their parents so that we increase knowledge and influence behaviours; ensuring that children are protected against UV radiation, and learn how to enjoy the sun safely.

Clothing and Sun hats

- St. Martin's School uniform is such that children's shoulders and the tops of their arms are covered at all times.
- Parents are reminded at the beginning of the summer and autumn terms of our Sun Safe policy.
- Sun hats are available in school for purchase. These are blue legionnaire style to ensure the protection of the children's necks. Older baseball style caps will be phased out.
- Staff actively remind children each day to check the UV level displays in the playgrounds and to wear hats if the level is 3 or higher. Children not wearing hats are asked to play in the shade.

Hydration

- All children are required to have a St. Martin's water bottle at school each day which has been washed and filled with clean water. Children may refill bottles as necessary.
- Children have access to their water bottles at all times, in addition to water fountains which are situated outside.

Sunscreen

- Children are expected to arrive at school wearing sunscreen during the hotter months. They are also asked to keep some in their bags to reapply at lunchtime.
- Staff remind children at lunchtime to reapply sunscreen when UV levels are 3 or above.
- Assistance is provided to younger or less able pupils if necessary.
- Spare sunscreen is kept in the office for use if

Shade

- At St Martin's we are committed to providing shade for our pupils to utilise when UV levels are 3 or above. Features such as buildings provide some shade naturally.
- Further shade will be provided by canopies between the climbing equipment and one of the outdoor classrooms to one side and the fence to the other.
- Gazebos will be utilised as necessary.

UV monitoring

- The Assistant Head is responsible for checking the UV forecast each day and displaying the UV level.
- UV levels are displayed in the main playground.
- Children and staff should take note of this daily.

Sun safety Education

- Children at St Martin's are educated about sun safety in a variety of ways.
- An annual whole school assembly is held which teaches them about the five Ss of sun safety.
 - PSHE lessons during the summer term using Sun Safe Schools resources.
 - Frequent reminders of correct sun safe behaviour.

Staff and Role modelling

- We ask that all staff model good sun safety behaviour and that this is visible to the children.
- Staff are committed to modelling good sun safety practises and to ensure that children take adequate measures to be sun safe.
- Staff consider UV levels when planning outdoor activities.

Parents

- St. Martin's Sun Safe policy is on our website for parents to read.
- Our expectations and requests are shared with parents in writing at the end of the spring term each year, in preparation for the summer term.
- Information provided by Sun Safe Schools is also shared with parents.

Written by: Mrs Doherty (EVC)
Date: 31st May 2022

Ratified by: Governors
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