

Sun Safety Policy

*"At Jackfield we work towards the healthy and wholesome
development of all children at all times."
"Right from the Start"*

INTRODUCTION

Whilst we recognise that some sun is good for us, over-exposure to Ultraviolet Radiation (UVR) is an important safeguarding issue for schools. During the warmer months of the year, children are exposed to UVR from the sun, often when penetration is strongest (between 11am and 3pm). 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, highlighting the importance of schools and parents working together to increase knowledge and influence behaviours, ensuring children are protected against UVR and learn how to enjoy the sun safely.

AIMS

This policy outlines our commitment to:

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

Rationale and recommendations for parents are listed below;

- We actively remind parents to ensure children are equipped with an appropriate sun hat for use as required throughout the school day.
- We make available additional/spare sun hats for all outdoor activities in the event a parent is unable to provide one, or if a child has lost or forgotten their own.
- We make available appropriate uniform sun hats for parents to purchase.
- We ensure children wear their sun hat outdoors when UV levels reach 3 or above. Baseball caps are not recommended and will be phased out.
- We use Sun Safe strategies to encourage children to cover up like 'No hat, play in the shade or indoors'.
- We ensure pupils wear school and PE uniforms that keep shoulders covered.

- We actively remind parents to ensure children are equipped with an appropriately protective sunscreen for use as required throughout the school day.
- We ensure pupils apply sunscreen when UV levels reach 3 or above before extended periods of outdoor activities such as lunch breaks, PE, outdoor lessons, school trips.
- A practical approach towards the application of sun cream is necessary, with assistance provided only where necessary to younger or less able pupils, unless instructed otherwise by the parent/carer.
- We currently provide shaded areas outdoors where children can congregate for outdoor play and activities.
- We conduct shade assessments to consider future needs and are committed to improving shade solutions where necessary.
- We encourage children to play in the shade as much as possible when UV levels reach 3 or above, particularly between peak UV hours (11am-3pm).
- We monitor and limit time children spend outdoors when UV levels are high, particularly during peak UV hours between 11am and 3pm
- We ensure all staff role model good sun safety behaviours such as applying sun cream and wearing a sun hat when UV levels reach 3 or above.
- We are committed to ensuring all staff are actively involved in the implementation of this policy and that they consider the UV forecast and sun protection/ control measures when planning outdoor play or activities.
- We communicate our policy and actively remind parents of the required support through a range of channels e.g. our website, newsletters, text messages, social media and staff meetings.
- We provide parents / carers with sun safety and skin cancer awareness information to promote support and raise awareness of the prevention and early detection of skin cancer across our wider school community.
- We are committed to ensuring children are kept hydrated with drinks, particularly water, available and encouraged regularly throughout the day, especially during warmer weather and physical activity.
- Our school will regularly monitor and review the effectiveness of this policy and will update the policy on an annual basis in-line with renewing our Sun Safe Schools annual accreditation