

Heath Mount Primary School Excelsior Multi Academy Trust Sun Protection Policy



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

EDUCATION

- All pupils receive sun safety messages (through PSHE lessons and assemblies) annually
- At the beginning of the summer term, parents are sent information via the school newsletter explaining what the school is doing about sun protection and how parents can support the school to protect children
- Where possible, teachers wear hats and sunglasses when on playground duty and when teaching outdoors on sunny days to set a good example to the children

PROTECTION

- We provide shaded areas (e.g. canopies and trees) for children to enjoy outdoor activities safely
- On very sunny days, we encourage pupils to sit or play in the shade and to drink water
- The use of sun cream (applied at home before school), sunglasses and hats (to provide shade for face, eyes and neck) is encouraged with parents and children
- We aim to schedule outside activities, school trips and outdoor PE lessons before 11am and after 2pm, where appropriate. Where this is unavoidable we encourage the use of hats, clothing and sunscreen to prevent sunburn. In any case, we seek to limit the amount of time children spend outside in direct sunshine (i.e. playtimes of 15 minutes, staggered lunchtimes so children are not outside for more than 30 minutes at a time, careful monitoring of children in the EYFS, etc.)

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN

We take seriously our duty to keep children and staff safe. In line with Child Protection and Safeguarding guidelines, staff members avoid unnecessary physical contact with children. Therefore, **adults within school will not apply sunscreen** to any pupil. We have on our roll a number of children with allergies that are adversely affected by contact with medicated lotions and creams. Therefore, **we will not allow children unfettered access to sun cream**. To support the school in safeguarding all of our children, we request that parents wishing to protect their children from the harmful effects of the sun should apply a cream giving long-lasting sun protection BEFORE the start of the school day.

APPLICATION OF SUN CREAM

It is our belief that parents should make sure their children go to school wearing appropriate clothing to protect them against harmful effects of the sun, with sunscreen applied if they feel this is necessary. We recognise that some parents will wish to go beyond this. Therefore, the following provision exists:

- Children may self-apply a 'top up' to their sun protection **before lunchtime play**
- **Parents** wishing their children to top up their sun protection **must supply children with sun cream**

- **Sun cream sent into school must be labelled clearly with the child's name)** and their class. Unlabelled sun cream will be discarded.
- To safeguard children who may be allergic to sun cream, **children may NOT share sun cream** (including with siblings); younger siblings will be **responsible for applying their own cream** (i.e. older siblings will not be expected to take responsibility for applying this)
- **Sun cream will be kept out of reach of ALL children** and will be made available just before the start of lunchtime play for children to self-apply. Parents should ensure they apply sun cream to their children before they come to school
- **If children run out of sun cream, it is their responsibility to inform their parents.** Sun cream will not be made available in case children forget their own or run out