



4. Health Policies

4.5 Sun Protection Policy

AIM

The purpose of the Rose Hill Westonbirt Sun Protection Policy is to protect staff and pupils from sunburn and contribute towards preventing skin cancer.

INTRODUCTION

Cancer Research UK reports that over 70,000 new cases of skin cancer are diagnosed each year and that skin cancer is one of the most common cancers in the UK. Most skin cancers are caused by damage from ultraviolet rays in sunlight.

EDUCATION

All pupils will have at least one Sun Protection lesson a year. This may take the form of an assembly. For the nursery children staff could re-enforce the sun protection message through stories, painting or songs.

A letter will be sent home to all parents explaining what the school is doing about sun protection and how they can help.

SUNSCREEN

Parents will receive a letter (or through school Newsletter) asking them to supply their child with a sunscreen product with a sun protection factor of 15+. The higher the factor, the greater the protection. Some children have very sensitive skin/allergies so parents will know which sunscreen is best for their child.

Most children will be able, with some direction, to apply sunscreen themselves. Self-application is recommended. However for nursery children it may be necessary for teachers or support staff to help them apply the sunscreen. Staff who help to apply sunscreen should do so only to the face, neck and arms. This prevents allegations of abuse and encroachment into learning time.

Parents of nursery children who feel that their children will need help applying sunscreen will need to complete a consent form to indicate that they are happy for approved teaching and support staff to do this. There is no legislation that prevents teachers and support staff from administering sunscreens but they are not legally obliged to administer sunscreens and would do so on a purely voluntary basis.



Rose Hill Westonbirt

SCHOOL

SHADE

We will actively encourage children to seek shade especially between April and September between the times of 11 am and 3pm when the sun is most harmful.

We will buy a pop-up gazebo to provide instant shade for the nursery children.

HYDRATION

All children will be actively encouraged to drink water throughout the day and especially before and during physical activity to avoid dehydration.

CLOTHING

We will actively encourage all children to wear a cap when playing outside from April 2007. Sun hats are available from Miss G. Fry, Westonbirt School, The price for a peak cap is £?? and £?? for the Legionnaire style cap. All children must wear the official Rose Hill Westonbirt caps to conform to the school uniform policy.

Staff should set a good example by wearing hats when outside.

We cannot currently supply sunscreen to all pupils on a daily basis because of the cost implications.

This policy was developed with the help of staff, pupils, parents and SunSmart guidelines from Cancer Research UK in April 2007.

We will monitor our progress and review the policy annually.

Signed.....

Date.....

To be reviewed by