

MAUNDENE PRIMARY SCHOOL

SUN SAFETY POLICY



Reviewed policy:

May 2016

Policy to be reviewed again:

May 2019

Maundene School is committed to the health, safety and welfare of the whole school community, which includes pupils, staff, parents, governors and visitors.

This policy sets out the framework within which we will endeavour, so far as is reasonably practicable, to protect pupils and staff from the hazards associated with exposure to the sun.

- This policy should be read in conjunction with the school's other related policies.

The Sun Safety policy complements and supports our work as a member of the National Healthy Schools Standard. It has been written with reference to guidelines from Cancer Research UK's "SunSmart" Campaign.

Background

Numbers of cases of skin cancer in this country are rising and most of these are due to exposure to UV radiation from the sun. Sunburn in childhood can double the risk of developing skin cancer and because the damage is not immediately apparent the problems can go undetected for many years.

Young skin is delicate and more easily damaged, but most cases of skin cancer can be prevented by protecting ourselves from the sun.

There are three key elements to any Sun Safety policy:

- **Protection** - providing an environment in which staff and pupils can stay safe from the sun;
- **Education** – learning about sun safety to promote safe behaviour; and
- **Co-operation** – working with parents and carers, and the wider school community, to promote sun safety.

Protection

The school will take the following steps to provide protection from the sun:

- Shaded areas are available for children and teachers to use on sunny days, and children will be encouraged to stay in these places (particularly between the hours of 11.00am and 3.00pm, when the sun is at its most intense)
- Umbrellas are provided for picnic benches to offer protection during break and lunchtime
- Three Outdoor Classrooms (One on each of the fields and One in the quiet area on the KS2 playground)
- Large umbrellas are erected on the KS1 and KS2 fields during break and lunchtime
- Children will be encouraged to wear suitable clothing that keeps the shoulders and arms covered. Vests and strappy tops will not be allowed
- Children will be encouraged to wear hats - wide-brimmed or legionnaire-style
- Children will be permitted to wear sunglasses, which parents are advised should be UV protected.

- Sunscreen is the last line of defence against sun damage. Parents will be asked to provide a supply of sunscreen that is at least Factor 15, which will be sent into school in a **named** container.
- An adult will supervise the application of sunscreen.
- Suitable supplies will also be taken, as part of the 'First Aid Kit' on school visits, although parents will be reminded to make sure their child brings an adequate supply when taking part in a visit.
- Sunscreen will be reapplied at regular intervals through the day.
- Lunchtimes will be shortened by 15 minutes during very hot days. In this case children are supervised in class for this period of time and encouraged to rehydrate.

Our school will encourage the children to see the benefits of following the SunSmart "SMART" cancer prevention programme:

Stay in the shade between 11.00am and 3.00pm.

Make sure we don't burn

Always cover up with suitable clothing and sunglasses

Remember that children burn more easily

Then use Factor 15+ sunscreen

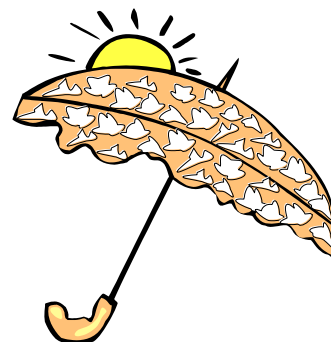
Education

Parents and children will be provided with suitable information about the need for sun safety. This may take the form of:

- Assemblies
- Letters and leaflets
- Support from the Healthy Schools Support Co-ordinator
- Other activities that may be appropriate

This policy will be reviewed each Easter to ensure it is valid for the coming summer.

Maundene School



Dear Parents/ Carers,

In the hope that the good weather will finally arrived!

The sun's rays are particularly strong over the summer and they can easily damage children's skin. This may not seem like a problem right now, but sadly it can lead to skin cancer in later life.

Your child's health and well-being are very important to us while they are in our care at school, which is why we have a sun safety policy. We:

- Encourage children to take advantage of the shaded areas in school and investigate further provision of shaded areas
- Encourage pupils to wear hats and suitable clothing when outside
- Encourage pupils to use sunscreen.

Your support is very important. You can help by:

- sending your child to school with a wide brimmed hat or buying your child a school uniform sun hat, available at the usual times from the School Office
- sending your child to school in clothes which do not over expose skin (i.e. cover the shoulders)
- sending sunscreen into school in a named container – you may prefer to send in sunscreen wipes, which are available, for younger children
- making sure your child knows how to put on the sunscreen, as staff are allowed only to supervise its application.

May we remind you of the need for children to remain hydrated, especially during hot weather. As such we do allow the children to bring in bottles of water to help with this during the day. However children should not refill these bottles from any of the taps in the toilets. There are designated drinking water fountains and taps in school to refill water bottles.



I have attached a copy of the School Sun Safety Policy.

Yours sincerely,

Ms D Indresano
Head teacher