



Sun Protection Policy

The community of St. Charles School believes that Jesus is at the heart of everything we do. We are committed to giving every child, every opportunity to achieve their potential in mind and body in a happy, safe and caring environment.

Policy Agreed: January 2019

Policy Reviewed: September 2020

At St. Charles RCVA School we acknowledge the importance of sun protection and want staff and pupils to enjoy the sun safely. We will work with staff, pupils and parents to achieve this through:

Education

- Sun protection will be incorporated into the curriculum for children of all ages
- Sun protection and the dangers of sunbed use will be discussed with classes and in assemblies at the start of the school year, summer term and before summer break.
- Parents and guardians will be informed about what the school is doing about sun protection and how they can help.
- Staff and governors can access information on sun safety on www.sunsmart.org.uk

Protection

- Children will be encouraged to sit/play in shaded areas or to go inside in extreme heat.
- Reception children will be encouraged to play in the shade during lunchtime.
- Gazebos will be made available for use in extreme conditions.
- Children are asked to bring a water bottle (marked with their name) to school every day.
- Water will always be available.

Timetabling

- Children will be encouraged to wear hats and sunscreen to minimise sunburn during outdoor activities and events between the hours 11:00 am – 3:00 pm.

Clothing

- Children are encouraged to wear hats outside during the summer
- Staff will be encouraged to wear suitable hats and clothing to reinforce role modelling when on playground duty and teaching outdoors.

Sunscreen

- Children will be encouraged to apply sunscreen before coming to school during the early autumn and summer term.
- Children will be encouraged to apply sunscreen before school trips during the summer months.
- Sunscreen will be included in the first aid box on school visits for children who forget
- We will seek parental consent to apply sunscreen to children in school on occasions when we feel it is necessary.

Chair of Governors:

Head Teacher:

St. Charles RCVA Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people, and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Appendix 1 - Sun Protection Policy Checklist

Education

It is important to raise awareness of why we need sun protection if you want to encourage pupils to change the way they behave in the sun.

Sun Protection Strategy	In Place	Planned	Comments
Sun protection and the dangers of sunbed use is incorporated into the curriculum for all ages			
All teachers and staff are made aware of this policy and the importance of sun protection within the school environment			
Sun protection is actively promoted to pupils in other ways at significant points of the school year including before and during summer and prior to summer holidays (e.g. assemblies, family groups)			
Parents are informed of the importance of sun protection through information sent home in newsletters and a letter informing them of the sun protection policy (see the parent letter template in these guidelines)			

Protection

Consider sun protection when planning all outdoor activities from April to end of September (the sun is at its strongest at this time of year).

Sun Protection Strategy	In Place	Planned	Comments
Shade			
A shade audit has been conducted on the school grounds to determine the suitability of current and proposed shade			
Shade structures provide long/short-term shade			
Seats and equipment are moved to shady areas			
Timetabling			
Hats, clothing and sunscreen are worn to minimise sunburn during outdoor activities and events between the hours of 11am – 3pm			
In the summer term staff should be conscious of the amount of time pupils are in the sun and if necessary, lessons or recreation time should take place inside the school.			
Clothing			
Pupils are encouraged to wear hats when outside			
Pupils are encouraged to wear tops that cover their shoulders (vests and strappy tops are discouraged)			
School uniform tops offer suitable sun protection			
Teachers and assistants also wear suitable hats and clothing to reinforce role modelling (staff?)			

Sunscreen

Sunscreen should be used for covering exposed areas of skin when shade may be unavailable and protective clothing is not practical e.g. during outdoor PE lessons and school excursions.

Choose a sunscreen with an SPF of at least 15+ which is also broad spectrum to protect from UVA and UVB rays and ensure that application of sunscreen is adequate and applied regularly.

Letters are sent home asking for parental permission for teachers to supervise application of sunscreen			
At least factor 15+ sunscreen is used in school and is applied adequately and regularly – this means two teaspoonfuls for the head, arms and neck.			
There is a school stock of sunscreen for pupils who forget/cannot afford their own			

Appendix 2



Dear Parent / Guardian,

Now the summer term has started I would like to tell you about our new Sun Protection Policy which we have developed with the help of parents, teachers and pupils to ensure that we can all enjoy the sun safely over the coming months.

The sun's rays are particularly strong over the summer and they can 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, which is why we have decided to:

- increase the amount of school time spent learning about sun protection
- encourage pupils to wear hats and suitable clothing when outside
- encourage pupils to use at least factor 15+ sunscreen in summer months.

Your support is very important if our new policy is going to work. You can help by:

- talking to your child about the importance of sun protection at home
- sending your child to school with a sun hat
- applying sunscreen to your child before the beginning of the school day

In extreme conditions we may feel that it is necessary to reapply sunscreen to your child. If you have any objections to this practice please contact school.

Together I hope we can have a very happy and safe term to come!

Yours sincerely,

Head Teacher

Miss M Tait