



St. Mary & St. Andrew's Catholic Primary School

Sun Safety Policy

At St Mary & St Andrew's Catholic Primary School we want our pupils to enjoy the sun safely. We are aware that there is an increased risk from the sun and that we can help children become 'sun safe' by teaching them at an early age how to protect themselves. The aim of our sun safety policy is to protect children and staff from potential skin damage caused by the effects of ultra-violet radiation from the sun.

We will work with staff, pupils and parents to achieve this through:

1. Teaching children about the dangers of excessive exposure to the sun's rays and how to protect themselves.
2. Encourage children to wear clothes that provide adequate protection and to use sun screen, where appropriate.
3. Encourage staff and parents to act as good role models by practising sun safety.
4. Remind children and parents about sun safety periodically through the newsletter.
5. Work towards increasing the provision of shade around the school site.
6. Encourage children to limit their exposure to the sun on particularly hot days by spending part of the time in shady areas during breaks, lunch hour, sports activities and school trips.
7. Keep under review the pupils' ability and willingness to make sensible decisions about staying in the sun and take action accordingly.

Sun screen:

Parents and guardians will be encouraged to ensure that their child(ren) are protected by long lasting sun screen (SPF30+ with a 4 star rating) each day before they arrive at school and are protected by appropriate clothing.

- Not all children are at equal risk of sunburn. If your child is at higher risk and you wish him/her to re-apply sun screen during the day they must ensure that children know how to do this and are able to do it by themselves. Consent, via our [Sun Safety Microsoft Form](#), must be completed on the first day you send the sun screen in. Without the consent, children will not be allowed to apply any sun screen.
- Whenever possible teachers or support staff will supervise the application of sun screen.
- If it is considered necessary for staff to assist with the application of sun screen, the sun screen will only be applied to face, neck, arms, hands and lower legs. Parents are asked to provide written instruction for their child's individual needs (**exceptional circumstances only i.e. children with specific needs**).
- All containers must be clearly marked with the child's name and class and should be put in the appropriate place in the classroom.
- We would not normally expect cream to be applied more than once during the day.

- Sun screen will be encouraged for all school trips and it will be expected that parents apply this to their child before leaving home in the morning.
- Parents are asked to only send in small containers of sun screen, which children can manage to apply themselves. Roll on sun screen is recommended.
- Parents will be made aware that sun screen needs to be at least factor 30 with a 4 star rating and preferably higher to offer adequate protection.

Clothing:

- Children will be encouraged to wear labelled school sun hats, available to buy from our affiliated uniform shops (see website – may be some stock in school to order via ARBOR).
- Staff will encourage good practice.

Shade:

We have shaded areas which the children are encouraged to use at break times.

We have an outdoor covered play area for Early Years which the children are encouraged to use.

Children will be reminded to play in the shade during lunch time.

Hydration:

- All pupils are asked to bring water bottles to school every day (containing water not juice), and to keep themselves well hydrated during the hot weather.
- Water is available to all children to top up bottles and staff encourage pupils to remain hydrated.
- Staff will remind pupils before any outdoor events to ensure they have their water bottles filled.

Timetabling:

On outdoor events taking place during school hours, children will be encouraged to use the shaded areas provided to sit and work or whilst waiting for a specific event to happen. In the situation where a child doesn't have sun screen or a hat with them, staff will make informed decisions for the safety of the child:

- To provide sun screen for the child.
- Assess the situation and make a decision as to whether or not the child takes part in outdoor events.