

Sun Safety Policy

Introduction

As the health and well-being of our school community is of great importance, we are working towards protecting our pupils and staff from sunburn and from skin damage that can be caused by the harmful ultra-violet rays in sunlight.

Skin cancer is the most common form of cancer in the country. As sunburn and almost all skin cancer is caused by the sun, it is possible to prevent this happening. The school believes that by encouraging sun safe behaviour at school and teaching children about the risks of sunlight, we can prevent them burning and contribute towards preventing skin cancer.

Principles

We will be encouraging children to avoid sunburn and overexposure to the sun by:

Seeking the shade, particularly during the middle of the day;

- Wearing suitable hats;
- Wearing clothing that protects the skin, particularly for outdoor activities and school trips;
- Using a high factor sunscreen (SPF 15+ although usually SPF30 is used).

Parents are asked to support the school by:

- encouraging their children to bring, and wear, a hat at school, particularly on sports days and school excursions;
- encouraging their children to wear longer sleeved shirts and longer shorts when outdoors;
- The school will remind parents of the sun safety policy from time to time, particularly around the start of the summer term, sports days, and outings.

Sunscreens provide added protection and may be useful when other measures are not available. Dermatologists recommend that a sunscreen with a sun protection factor (SPF) of 15 or above will provide children in this country with adequate protection.

Great Ouse Primary Academy:

- Encourages parents to administer all day sunscreen before school for this purpose.
Staff will not do this for any child whilst in school;
- Provides “emergency” hats and caps for pupils who do not have them;
- Has purchased sun canopies and gazebos to ensure provision of shade;

Reviewed September 2021

Next Review September 2024

