



Callands Community Primary School

Sun Safe School Policy

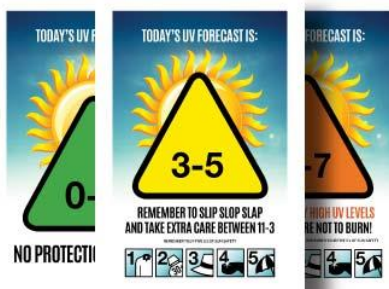
2018



Rationale

Whilst we recognise that some sun is good for us, Sun Safety is an important health and safety issue for schools. Children spend almost half their childhood at school, with approximately 8 hours per week spent outdoors. During the warmer months of the year, children are exposed to UV radiation from the sun, the majority of which is when UV penetration is at its strongest (between 11am and 3pm). Without adequate protection, a child's delicate skin can easily burn, causing accumulative and irreparable damage. This can significantly increase their risk of developing skin cancer in later life.

Skin cancer is the most common cancer in the UK with rates of the disease rising faster than any other cancer. Sun exposure in the first 15 years of life contributes significantly to a person's lifetime risk of skin cancer - highlighting the importance of schools and parents working together; to increase knowledge and influence behaviour; ensure children are protected against UV; and learn how to enjoy the sun safely.



At Callands Community Primary 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. We have UV Monitors in each class who research and report the daily UV level to inform their peers about the protection needed.



Teaching and communicating sun safety.

We are committed to educating all pupils annually on sun safety using comprehensive, curriculum linked lesson plans, activities and resources provided by the Sun Safe Schools national accreditation scheme. We communicate sun safety information through a range of channels e.g. our website, newsletters, text messages, social media, school assemblies and staff meetings.

We will talk about how to be Sun Safe in assemblies at the start of the Summer Term and before summer break. Parents and Guardians will be sent a letter explaining what the school is doing about sun protection and how they can help to ensure their child is safe in the sun.

Protection – Sunscreen and clothing

Sunscreen should be applied at home before your child comes to school. Reapplication will be encouraged on days when the sun is strong and UV levels reach 3 or above before extended periods outdoors such as lunch breaks, PE, or outdoor activities during summer at lunch breaks, during PE lessons and on school trips. Extra sunscreen will be made available in case children forget their own. Children are encouraged to apply their own whilst supervised.

We will send letters home asking for permission for pupils to apply sunscreen on days when the sun is strong during the summer months and children have not been supplied or applied with sunscreen. Parents should ensure that children have a bottle of sunscreen which is kept in school during the Summer Term. This should be clearly labelled and is at least SPF 30. We cannot currently supply sunscreen to all pupils on a daily basis because of cost.

When outside in sunny weather, children are required to wear hats that cover the ears, face and neck. They may wear UV Protective sunglasses, but they must be provided from home and school cannot be responsible for the

loss of such items. . If children do not have a hat, they will be encouraged to play in the shade. Please note that baseball caps are not sufficient to protect ears and neck.

We currently provide shaded areas outdoors where pupils congregate for outdoor play, lessons and activities. This includes the shade of the trees and the wooden shaded structures on the playgrounds.



The children will learn and follow the rules of George the Sun Safe Superstar and the 5s: Slip, Slop, Slap, Slide, Shade.

Slip on a shirt – to cover shoulders

Slop on the sunscreen

Slap on a hat

Slide – sunglasses on to protect your eyes

Shade – from the sun whenever possible

Hydration

It is important that your child has a labelled, clear bottle which can be refilled with water at school should it be needed. Please note that juice is not permitted during the day at school. Water fountains are accessible at various locations throughout the school.

Timetabling

We are committed to ensuring all staff are actively involved in the implementation of this policy and that they consider the UV forecast and sun protection/ control measures when planning outdoor activities or school trips. Therefore, in the summer months, before outside activities such as school trips and PE lessons take place (if after 11am and before 3pm) staff will take all possible measures to ensure that children in their care are safe from the sun.

Review

The school will regularly monitor and review the effectiveness of this policy and will update the policy on an annual basis in-line with renewing our Sun Safe Schools Accreditation.

We have been awarded the Sun Safe School Accreditation 2018 and this is due for renewal in May 2019.

Further information about the Sun Safe Schools scheme can be found at: sunsafeschools.co.uk

Further information about skin cancer prevention and early detection can be found at: skcin.org