

# USE OF SUNSCREENS POLICY

## BENTHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL

Bentham Primary School believes in promoting Sun Safety to ensure that children and staff are protected from skin damage caused by the harmful ultra-violet rays in sunlight.

As part of our Sun Safety Policy, Bentham Primary School will:

- Educate children throughout the curriculum about the causes of skin cancer and how to protect their skin;
- Encourage children to wear clothes that provide good sun protection, and use sunscreens where appropriate;
- Seek shade, particularly in the middle of the day and to use shady areas during breaks, lunchtimes, sports and trips.
- Encourage staff and parents to act as good role models by practising sun safety;
- Regularly remind children, staff and parents about sun safety through newsletters, posters and activities for pupils;
- Drink plenty of water during hot, sunny weather;
- Make sure the Use of Sun Screens Policy is working. We will regularly monitor our curriculum, assess shade provision, and review the sun safety behaviour of students and staff (use of hats, shade, etc).

Bentham Primary School wishes to encourage students to protect themselves from the sun. One way of doing this is to use sunscreen at the appropriate time. If a pupil is to use sunscreen at school, parents are asked to apply sunscreen before school. Sunscreen will only be required at school for the use during school trips. On these occasions the sunscreen must be:

1. Clearly marked with the child's name.
2. The sunscreen product will be stored in the child's bag or other location designated by the teacher.
3. The child must be able to apply his or her own sunscreen (except Nursery and Reception children).

**For Nursery and Reception parents:**

They are asked to apply sunscreen at home before a typical school day and this will be reapplied as necessary by staff.

If it is considered necessary for teachers/staff to assist with the application of sunscreen, the sunscreen will only be applied to face, neck, arms, hands and lower legs.

Please note that the school does not permit the use of aerosol sprays for any children.

**Signed.....E Besharati & A McGregor.....Date April 23.....**

**Review Date April 24.....**





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Dear Parent/Carer

## Sun Safety at School

The school is concerned about protecting staff and pupils 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 cancers are 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. The school would like your help and support in this matter. 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+).**

Staff will be encouraged to set an example. Some children are at greater risk of sunburn than others. Fair skinned, freckled children who burn easily are most at risk from overexposure to the sun and need to take great care when out in the sun.

Teachers and support staff responsible for children when outdoors or in charge of school outings will remind children to cover up in the sun and use sunscreen.

You can help by encouraging your child to bring, and wear, a hat at school, this is particularly important when children are going to outside for large amounts of the school day. Also by encouraging your child 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. This school encourages parents to use sunscreen for this purpose. The School wishes to encourage students to protect themselves from the sun. **If the use of a sunscreen is required, parents are asked to apply sunscreen before school.** Sun screen will only required at school for the use during school trips. On those occasions it is requested that the product to be used is labelled with the child's name. Children will apply their own sunscreen under the supervision of school staff. **Please note that the school does not permit the use of aerosol sprays.**

***At this current time, we are using the outdoor areas as much as possible. Children need to ensure they have a long lasting SPF15+ sunscreen applied before they come to school. Children do not need to bring sunscreen into school.***

Yours sincerely

Ella Besharati & Alison McGregor