

# St Joseph's Catholic Primary School



## Our Mission Statement

We grow together in God's Love as we Pray, Learn and Play

*"Dym ni'n tyfu gyda'n gilydd mewn cariad Duw wrth i ni weddio, dysgu a chwarae"*

## SUN SAFETY POLICY

*Article 3: Everyone who works with children should always do what's best for each child*

*Article 6: You have a right to life and grow up to be healthy*

*Article 12: You have the right to say what you think should happen and be listened to*

This Policy was approved by the Governing Body on	July 2024	The first policy was drawn up and ratified by the Governing Body	Signed: 
This policy is due to be reviewed by the Governing Body	November 2025	This Policy was reviewed by the Governing Body and ratified	Signed:
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## **Rationale**

At St. Joseph's RC Primary School, we are committed to our duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people. Skin cancer is one of the most common cancers in the UK and the number of cases is rising at an alarming rate. The good news is that the majority of these cases could be prevented. Most skin cancers are caused by ultraviolet (UV) radiation from the sun. If we protect ourselves from the sun then we can reduce our risk. This is particularly important for children and young people whose skin is more delicate and easily damaged.

Studies have found that sunburn during childhood can increase the risk of skin cancer later in life. You may not see the damage immediately because skin cancer can take years to develop, but children who are over-exposed to the sun now are storing up problems for the future.

## **Purpose**

The purpose of the sun safety policy is to provide:

An environment that enables pupils and staff to stay safe in the sun.

- A curriculum which includes sun safety, to increase knowledge and influence behaviour.
- Collaboration with parents, governors and the wider community to reinforce awareness about sun safety and promote a healthy school.

At St Joseph's 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 is incorporated into the curriculum for all ages.
- Sun safety is incorporated into our whole school 'Sun Safety' week.
- 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 (e.g. Assemblies, workshops, talks, whole school events)
- 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.

### **Protection:**

#### **SHADE**

- Some shaded areas and seating is available in the playground.
- There are a variety of trees in the playground which provide shade at different times of the day.
- We have carried out a shade audit of all our outdoor areas and have agreed to increase opportunities for shade areas in key parts of the playgrounds over the next three years.

#### **TIMETABLING**

- When outdoor activities and events take place on very hot days, we ensure hats, appropriate clothing and sunscreen are worn to minimise sunburn.
- During very hot weather, morning/ afternoon breaks and lunch breaks will be monitored to minimise risk of sunburn.

#### **CLOTHING**

- Pupils are encouraged to wear wide-brimmed or legionnaire style hats when outside.
- Pupils always wear tops that cover their shoulders (vests and strappy tops are not allowed) as part of their school uniform and PE kit.
- Pupils are allowed to wear UV protective sunglasses on sunny days.
- Staff also wear suitable clothing and hats to reinforce sun safety.

## **SUNSCREEN**

- Parents are encouraged and reminded to ensure that high factor/8-hour sun screen is applied to children before school on very hot days.
- Each pupil is encouraged to have their own labelled bottle of sunscreen in school.
- Letters are sent home seeking parental permission for pupils to apply sunscreen in school when needed, under staff supervision.

## **REHYDRATION**

- All children are encouraged to bring a water bottle into school each day.
- Children are allowed to keep their water bottle in the classroom and are allowed to drink from it throughout the day.
- Water is provided in the dinner hall at lunchtimes.

## **Collaboration with parents:**

- In Term 5, the key elements of our Sun safety policy are highlighted in our school newsletter to parents. This is repeated during periods of very hot weather.
- Legionnaire style hats and small bottles of sun screen are advised to be worn every day during hot weather.
- Permission letters for application of sun screen are sent home in Term 5.
- Any relevant sun safety information that the school receives from organisations such as cancer Research UK, will be passed on to parents.

This Sun Safety Policy was developed in conjunction with the Sun Smart Policy Guidelines, and will be updated every three years.

***The headteacher is responsible for monitoring the policy to ensure that it is applied.***

***The policy applies equally to all pupils in the school community regardless of gender, ethnicity, social circumstances and prior attainment.***