



SUN GUIDANCE POLICY

Policy Reference No	ACA005
Review Frequency	Every 3 years
Reviewed	Spring 2020
Next Review Date	Spring 2023
Ratified by SET	April 2013

TOGETHER WE EMPOWER EXCELLENCE

RATIONALE

Within the Learning Academy Partnership the Trustees and Staff are fully aware of the dangers that overexposure to sunlight can have on skin. Most skin cancers are caused by UV radiation from the sun. Sun exposure in the first 15 years of life contributes significantly to the lifetime risk of skin cancer. 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.

The following sets out the main aspects of our policy to protect children and adults during the school day and to encourage good health in line with the academies' healthy school programme. This should be read in conjunction with the Health and Safety Policy.

As an academy there are two aspects to the policy, the implementation of safe school practice and the supporting strategies.

IMPLEMENTATION

1. Develop staff awareness, i.e. through provision of information regarding sun safety and available resources to all staff.
2. Implement the five key Sun 'Smart' skin cancer prevention messages in line with the national skin cancer prevention campaign by Cancer Research UK.
These messages are:

Stay in the shade 11 – 3
Make sure you never burn
Always cover up – wear a t-shirt and hat
Remember children burn more easily
Then use a factor 15+ sunscreen
3. Other sun safety precaution include wearing UV protective sunglasses and ensure that children showing signs of overexposure to the sun are taken to a person responsible for first aid.
4. Sun cream:
 - Parents will be encouraged to apply sun cream to their child/ren before the start of school.
 - If a child is showing the signs of burning or discomfort from previous exposure to the sun they will be removed from the sun and parents contacted.
 - Whilst in school Sun cream or After-sun cream will only be administered by a member of staff after parents have been notified and consent obtained.
 - The use of sunscreen will be encouraged on school trips and visits with a whole day duration but only factor 15+ can be applied, each pupil should provide their own labelled bottle and staff can only supervise the application of sunscreen. The academy must be in receipt of a signed sunscreen permission slip

SUPPORTING STRATEGIES

1. Develop a proactive supervision procedure during the lunch break (i.e., check pupils for appropriate clothing, e.g. sun hats on, encourage regular drinks, of water, actively seek shaded areas, etc.) This should particularly focus on pupils whose parents have not provided them with either sunscreen or sun-protective clothing.
2. Academy sunhats will be considered to be part of the school uniform for the Summer Term and actively encouraged to be worn. If a hat is not part of the uniform children should bring a suitable sun hat.
3. Parents will be provided with information with regard to strategies and informed of the importance of sun protection through school newsletters, etc. Sun protection will be actively promoted to pupils through assemblies, talks etc.
4. Everyone will be made fully aware of 'special' all day activities such as Sports Days, Educational Visits, Academy based outdoor investigations, etc. to ensure that all staff and pupils use a 'preventative approach to sun safety' with advance notice.
5. Avoid outdoor P.E. sessions lasting longer than 40 minutes on any given day and not on consecutive days.

Appendix 1 Letter to parents

SUMMER TERM

Dear Parents,

Now the Summer Term has started I wanted to write and tell you about our Sun Guidance Policy. This is to ensure that we can all enjoy the sun safely over the coming months.

The sun's rays are particularly strong over the summer and they can damage children's skin. This may not seem like a problem right now, but sadly it can lead to skin cancer in later life. Your child's health and well being are very important to us

Your support is very important if our policy is going to work. You can help by:

- Applying sunscreen each morning during the summer months.
- Talking to your child about the importance of sun protection at home.
- Sending your child to school with a school hat. If the academy does not have a hat as part of the uniform please supply a suitable sun hat.

- If appropriate return the sunscreen permission slip for whole school day trips.

Together I hope we can have a very happy and safe term to come!

Yours sincerely,

Head of Academy