



St Agatha's Catholic Primary School

Policy	Sun Protection Policy
Author	Mrs Elizabeth Cahill
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Governor Committee	
Statutory Policy	Y/N

At St Agatha's School we are 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 second 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. 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.

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 greater care when out in the sun. All children and adults should avoid overexposure to the sun to prevent dehydration and overheating.

Teachers and support staff on outdoor duties or in charge of school outings will remind all children, and particularly those most at risk of burning, to cover up in the sun and use sunscreen.

You can help by encouraging your child to bring, and wear, a hat at school in the sunnier times of the school year. We recommend a hat with a peak or legionnaire style to provide additional protection.

We want staff and pupils to enjoy the sun safely. We will work with staff, pupils and parents to achieve this through:

1. EDUCATION

- We will work with colleagues from the health service to provide all pupils SunSmart information
- We will talk about how to be SunSmart in assemblies and in class
- We will keep parents/carers informed about sun protection and how they can help

2. PROTECTION

[a] Shade:

- We have a number of shaded areas around the school provided by trees and canopies.

[b] Timetabling:

- Our sports days will start before 10 o'clock
- During particularly sunny days we will endeavour to teach out door PE before 11:00. Where this is not possible staff will make use of shade to reduce the amount of time in direct sunlight.

[c] Clothing:

Teachers and support staff on outdoor duties or in charge of school outings will remind those most at risk of burning to cover up in the sun and use sunscreen.

- Our school uniform summer dresses should have short sleeves and a collar in order to protect neck and shoulders. Our white polo shirts provide similar protection.
- School sun hats are available for purchase from the school office
- Children should bring sun hats to school to wear at playtimes and during outdoor PE lessons
- Children should wear T-shirts which cover their shoulders for outdoor lessons.
- Sunglasses are not permitted to be worn unless they are prescription glasses.

[d] Sunscreen:

Sunscreens provide added protection and may be useful when other measures are not available. Our Kingston Health advisors recommend that a sunscreen with a sun protection factor (SPF) of 50 or total block.

- Parents/carers are responsible for applying sunscreen to their children before they arrive at school

- Parents/carers are responsible for providing their child with sunscreen for additional coverage on school trips.
- If parents/carers feel that their child requires an additional application of sunscreen during the school day they must provide a labelled bottle for their child and teach them how to apply it independently. Children will then need to apply it themselves at lunchtime.

3. COLLABORATION

- The school will aim to work with parents, Governors and the wider community to reinforce awareness about sun safety and promote a healthy school