

**St Mary's Catholic Primary School**  
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# **Sun Protection Policy**

## **2015-16**

**POLICY DETAILS:**

**Legal Status:** Non-Statutory

**Adopted:**

**Version Date:** September 2015

**Last Review:**

**Next Review:** September 2016

**Responsible Person:** Executive Headmistress

*(Any reference to 'Governing Body' and 'Governors' is applicable to the Governing Body or Interim Executive Board of St Mary's Catholic Primary School and their respective appointed members.)*

## **Introduction**

We are aware that children are at a higher risk of sunburn during the summer term and that the sun is at its most fierce from 10.00am until 2.00pm which is the time the children are in the care of staff at school.

At St Mary's Catholic Primary School we want staff and pupils to enjoy the summer months and to be safe in the sun. We will achieve this through both education and protection.

Sun protection is a multi-strand approach including education, protection and sensible routines. The application of sun protection cream alone may not always be effective in preventing sun burn. We must also be aware of the fact that the sun can also cause other symptoms, for example, dehydration.

## **Education**

- We will talk about being 'Sun Smart' in assemblies and / or in class during the summer term
- Information will be put up around school and on our website advising parents of how to prepare their child for coming to school on a hot day. This checklist will include
  - ensuring their child has sun protection cream applied before coming to school. Most chemists and supermarkets stock 'once a day' water resistant sun protection creams which can be applied by parents before school and after school as parents feel necessary
  - ensuring their child has a school hat with them everyday
  - ensuring their child has a fresh bottle of drinking water in school everyday
- Lunch time staff will be advised to ensure all children who have hats wear them at lunch time.
- Lunch time staff will encourage all children to take frequent drinks of water.

## **Protection**

### ***Shade***

All play areas have some sections of shade and the sun moves around the building during the day providing natural shade at times. During the hottest parts of the day, children will be moved to shaded areas at times to limit prolonged exposure to the sun.

## **Sunscreen**

- Parents will be encouraged through information around school and on our website to put appropriate 'once a day' water resistant sun protection cream on their children before they come to school
- If children are going on a school trip on a hot day or participating in events which involves them being outdoors for a longer period of time than usual, a letter will be sent home advising that children may bring their own sun protection cream to 'top up' throughout the day.
- Teachers may supervise children in applying their sun protection cream while on trips but it is the children's responsibility to apply the cream and to keep the container stored safely.
- Some children and /or staff may have an allergic reaction to sun protection cream. Therefore, children who have brought cream to school must keep this in their bag and not share with anyone else. This is also good infection control practice.

## **School Uniform**

The school uniform includes a summer cap which can be purchased from the school uniform supplier.

## **Medical Needs**

If your child has a specific medical condition which requires regular application of sun protection cream throughout the school day, please inform the school office to discuss in more detail.