



## Bell Farm Primary School



### Sun Safe and High Temperature Policy

At Bell Farm we are committed to ensuring that we meet our health and safety obligations to staff and pupils, including during outdoor activities.

During summer months, there comes the possibility of heatwaves. In these cases, it is exceptionally important to stay in air-conditioned or cool rooms inside, and in the shade outside. As a school, we know that health and safety is of the utmost importance, and it is vital that we address this issue.

Overexposure to the sun's ultraviolet (UV) radiation presents a severe risk to the health and wellbeing of our staff and pupils, with the potential to cause sunburn, blistering and sickness.

This policy outlines the framework in which our school will identify, manage and minimise the risks of UV rays to our staff and pupils. The procedures outlined within this policy should be adhered to by all staff members, pupils, parents and visitors whilst on the school premises or attending a school event.

#### 1. Legal framework

1.1. This policy has due regard to relevant legislation and guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- The Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974
- The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999
- Keeping Children Safe in Education 2016

1.2. This policy will be implemented in conjunction with the following school policies:

- Health and Safety Policy
- Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy
- Allegations of Abuse Against Staff Policy
- Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy

#### 2. Minimising risks

2.1. To minimise the risk of heatstroke, sunstroke and sun damage, our school will:

- Encourage staff and pupils to keep as much of their skin as possible covered up during the summer months.
- Encourage staff and pupils to use sunscreen of at least sun protection factor (SPF) 20 on any part of the body that they cannot cover up.
- Use sunscreen in accordance with the product's instructions.

- Encourage staff and pupils to take their breaks in the shade, if possible, rather than staying out in the sun.
- Situate water points and rest areas in the shade.
- Encourage staff and pupils to drink plenty of water to avoid dehydration.
- Ensure all staff members, pupils and visitors are aware of, and adhere to, this policy.

### **3. Hats**

- 3.1. During the summer months, all children will have to wear Bell Farm school caps when playing outside.
- 3.2. Pupils without Bell Farm caps will only play in an area protected from the sun.

### **4. Clothing**

- 4.1. During hot weather, lightweight clothing will be required in order to reduce the risk of overheating. Pupils will be advised not to wear their jumpers during heatwaves.
- 4.2. All children will wear summer uniform during the summer term and this will be extended if the beginning of the Autumn term is very hot.

### **5. Sunscreen**

- 5.1. Wherever possible pupils are requested to come to school with sunscreen already applied on sunny days.
- 5.2. Pupils are asked to provide their own sunscreen in a bottle labelled with their name.
- 5.3. Sunscreen will be self-administered, under supervision, wherever possible.
- 5.4. Teachers and other staff members are not encouraged, and cannot be required, to apply sunscreen to pupils, due to the potential for allegations of abuse.
- 5.5. Where a teacher or other staff member agrees to apply sunscreen to pupils, such as to our youngest pupils or to a pupil with SEN, a parental consent must be obtained beforehand.
- 5.6. Teachers and other staff members will only apply sunscreen to pupils' faces, necks and arms.

### **6. PE**

- 6.1. On days above 25°C, PE lessons will only involve activities which are not overly strenuous. Appropriate clothes, hats and sunscreen will be worn, and participants will remain suitably hydrated.

## **7. Play times.**

- 7.1. On days above 30°C, part of the play/lunch time will be held indoors to prevent any kind of illness resulting from strenuous activities in inappropriate conditions.

## **8. School trips**

- 8.1. Our school trips may not take place if the temperature is over a certain level. This will be based on the age of the children, how much walking is involved, the destination and the time of day.
- 8.2. Our sports days will not be held if the temperature exceeds 32°C, as recommended by the DfE.

## **9. Hot weather procedures**

- 9.1. There is no prescribed maximum temperature for educational establishments; however, the DfE have suggested a maximum working temperature of 35°C. If rooms surpass this then groups will be moved to cooler parts of the school.
- 9.2. The classes without air conditioning will be allocated sessions in air-conditioned rooms wherever possible.

## **10. Pupils with albinism**

- 10.1. Our school recognises that the lack of melanin in a pupil with albinism's skin increases their risk of sunburn and skin cancer.
- 10.2. In order to enhance their protection from the sun, our school will ensure that pupils with albinism:
  - Wear sunscreen with an SPF of at least 30, and preferably one which provides maximum protection from both UV-A and UV-B radiation.
  - Apply a thick layer of sunscreen before going outside.
  - On exceptionally hot days, where possible, avoid going out between 11am and 3pm, when the sun is at its hottest and UV radiation is at its strongest. Pupils with albinism may wait in a shaded area or in the classroom with a teacher during these times.
  - Wear sunglasses with a UV filter.
  - Cover up with a hat and loose-fitting clothing.
- 10.3. We will also ensure that specific medical advice in relation to individual pupils with albinism is adhered to at all times.

## **11. Curriculum**

- 11.1. Sun protection will be actively promoted to pupils at key points of the year, such as before and during the summer term, through assemblies, workshops and lessons.
- 11.2. Information regarding sun protection will be sent to parents in the summer term.

## 12. Role modelling

All members of staff will act as role models and demonstrate sun-safe behaviour by encouraging families and visitors to role model sun-safe behaviour when they are visiting the school.

## 13. Monitoring and review

- 13.1. The effectiveness of this policy will be monitored and evaluated by all members of staff. Any concerns will be reported to the headteacher immediately.

Status of Policy	Date
Authored by Anne Cooper	June 2018
Policy reviewed	December 2022
Agreed by Staff	February 2023
Agreed by Governors	N/A
Next review	(Every three years) December 2025

### Parental Consent to Apply Sunscreen (for young children who burn easily or children with SEN)

As the parent/guardian of ....., I , give permission to the staff at Bell Farm to help apply the sunscreen that I have provided during the spring and summer months.

I further understand that sunscreen will only be applied to the face, neck and arms.

Staff may help apply the sunscreen that I provide to my child.	<input type="checkbox"/>
My child has albinism/burns easily.	<input type="checkbox"/>

Parent name:

Date:

.....

.....

Parent signature:

.....