

Guidance Note

Sunscreen

Introduction

Exposure to the sun can lead to skin cancer. Simple measures can prevent or reduce the incidence of skin cancer, such measures are:

- Provision of shade so that pupils can stay out of the sun.
- Advocating appropriate clothing and hats so pupils can cover up.
- Use of high Sunscreen.

Who's Responsible?

Parents and Carers

Parents and carers have the prime responsibility for their children's health and welfare. They can ensure that their children are adequately protected by providing them with:

- Appropriate clothing, including hats between April and September.
- A high factor sunscreen (15+). Please note applying sunscreen before school will not provide adequate protection all day.

Teachers and school staff

The head teacher is responsible for implementing school policies and informing parents. The head teacher also has the responsibility of developing procedures in more detail and providing appropriate guidance and support to all members of staff.

Good Practice

Schools have an important role in child protection. Protection from the sun is one of many health issues that schools will wish to address with the involvement of parents. To ensure this, good practices such as:

- Sun safety measures should be an integral part of a whole school policy.
- The use of sunscreen is only one measure to be considered.
- Parental permission and involvement in the implementation of sun safety measures is essential.
- Self-application of sunscreen by pupils is the preferred option and practical in most circumstances.
- The school policy should explain those circumstances where assistance with sunscreen application by teachers or support workers is necessary.
- The school policy should be developed in consultation with staff and parents

Further Advice

For further advice and guidance please contact the education Health and Safety team on:

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