

P

pupil voice

R

respect

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independence

D

dignity

E

entitlement



SUN SAFETY POLICY

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Review Date	March 2021

An academy within:



“Learning together; to be the best we can be”



Our Intent:

Kelford School believes in sun safety to ensure that children, young people and staff are protected from skin damage caused by the harmful ultra-violet rays in sunlight.

Aims and Principles:

In order to give as much protection as possible against the dangers from the sun we are agreed on the following principles:-

- Where appropriate in the curriculum, the children and young people shall be taught about ways to protect their skin from the sun.
- As part of our dress code, children and young people are encouraged not to come to school in unsuitable clothing.
- In summer months this includes children and young people not wearing halter neck tops, crop tops or tops with shoestring shoulders.
- Children and young people are encouraged to wear tops, which cover the shoulders.
- Under no circumstances are children and young people allowed to take off their tops at playtime.
- Children and young people are encouraged to wear hats outdoors.
- Children and young people will not be allowed to change into PE or beach type clothing at break times.
- Sunbathing is not allowed during the school day.
- Staff will ensure pupils are in the shade or will keep them indoors if necessary.
- We will aim to provide additional shade areas/options.
- When the sun is extremely hot, teachers will use their own judgement whether or not to hold their lesson or break time outside.
- Consider potential sun exposure when planning school trips.
- Parents are asked to send in sun cream for their child. This must be labelled with their child's name. Children are not allowed to share sun cream.
- Where ever possible, try and involve parents/guardian in policy/decision making re: sun safety e.g. PTA Parent Governors.

Risks of sun exposure:

The World Health Organisation (WHO) has published sun protection guidance for schools and highlight that Schools are well-placed to teach pupils how to prevent overexposure to UV radiation: At Kelford School we know that:

- Overexposure to ultraviolet (UV) radiation causes serious health effects, including skin cancer, eye damage, and suppressed immune function
- Children are at greater risk from UV radiation



There are key elements for minimising exposure:

- Providing shade structures on the school site
- Encouraging or requiring the use of clothing that offers protection from the sun
- The use of sunscreen on parts of the body that cannot be covered
- Scheduling outdoor activities to avoid peak hours for UV radiation, or making use of shaded and indoor facilities instead

Educating children about sun safety

School programmes are the key to prevention and Kelford School understands we have a duty to teach healthy behaviours that can prevent overexposure to UV radiation. Children and young people spend much time in school, and UV radiation exposure during the school years contributes significantly to total lifetime sun exposure.

We are aware that school children and young people are especially susceptible to fashion trends and peer pressure suggesting that a suntan is healthy. However, Kelford School will provide an environment that is geared towards learning and practising new skills, including “sunsafe” behaviours. Teachers will play a major role in influencing children and young people’s knowledge, attitudes, and behaviour regarding sun protection, and can make a major contribution to the long-term health of their pupils.

Curriculum

We believe that an interdisciplinary programme is very beneficial for teaching sun protection, as information will be reinforced through a variety of sources. For example, pupils can learn about the health effects of UV radiation in science classes, do word games about the sun in language classes, or learn about sun mythology in social studies. At the same time, sun protection can be used as a practical example to reinforce existing curriculum areas such as mathematics or environmental studies. Curriculum programmes focusing on or incorporating sun protection education can help develop communication and life skills.

At Kelford School, these form part of a comprehensive approach that aims to develop positive attitudes towards risk reduction and to promote responsible decision-making, skills essential for general health and well-being.

As part of the Sun Safety Policy, Kelford School will also:

- ✓ Educate children throughout the curriculum about the cause of skin cancer and how to protect their skin and eyes
- ✓ Educate children to wear clothes that provide good sun protection, and use sunscreens where appropriate



- ✓ Ensure that a reminder about sun protection goes into letters to parents about visits during the relevant terms
- ✓ Hold outdoor activities in areas of shade whenever possible, and encourage children to use shady areas during breaks, lunch hours, sports and trips. Sunbathing is definitely discouraged
- ✓ Work towards increasing the provision of adequate shade for everybody
- ✓ Encourage staff and parents to act as good role models by practising sun safety
- ✓ Regularly remind children, staff and parents about sun safety through newsletters, letters re. visits and activities for pupils
- ✓ Make sure the Sun Safety Policy is working. We will regularly monitor our curriculum, assess shade provision, and review the sun safety behaviour of pupils and staff (the use of hats, shade etc.)
- ✓ Encourage pupils to apply their own sun cream (supplied by home) before break/lunch time or as necessary. Younger/less able pupils may need support with this and this should be set out in their care plan
- ✓ Encourage pupils to wear sunglasses to protect their eyes, as and when appropriate.

Additional Relevant Documents:

Health and Safety Policy

Supporting Pupils with Medical Needs Policy

SunSAFE

Department of Health Richmond House 79 Whitehall London SW1A 2NS

<http://www.doh.gov.uk/sunSAFE>

<https://www.sunSAFESchools.co.uk/>

<https://www.nhs.uk/livewell/skin/pages/sunSAFE.aspx>